

# Soldiers

A full-page photograph of a soldier in a cowboy hat and uniform riding a horse. The soldier is wearing a dark blue uniform with yellow stripes on the sleeves and a yellow bandana around his neck. He is holding the reins and has a wide, enthusiastic smile, showing his teeth. The horse is brown and is galloping towards the viewer. The background is a blurred natural setting.

The Official U.S. Army

September 2001

## The First Team

OPBAT  
Soldiers

NTC Turns 20



# Soldiers

September 2001 Volume 56, No. 8



## The Official U.S. Army Magazine

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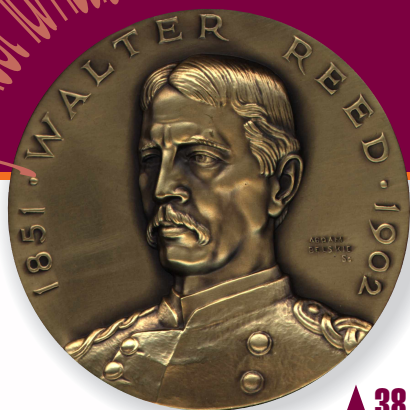
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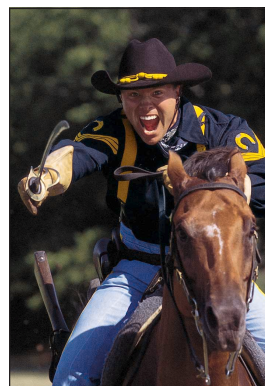
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## Front cover:

SGT Robert Gower of the 1st Cavalry Division Horse Detachment charges forward with saber drawn. — Photo by Paul Disney

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## From the Editor

AS part of our continuing series on Army divisions, this month's issue showcases the 1st Cavalry Division. Our cover photo — taken at great personal risk by Paul Disney — features SGT Robert Gower of the First Team's Horse Detachment.

Moving from horses to helicopters, veteran correspondent Steve Harding takes us to the Caribbean for a look at how Army aviators support counterdrug operations in a combined, interagency environment in "OPBAT Soldiers."

From Europe, Art McQueen gives us an inside look at the making of "Band of Brothers." Based on Stephen Ambrose's book on the exploits of "Easy Company," 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment, this HBO miniseries premieres this month.

Finally, *Soldiers* bids farewell to our longtime managing editor, Lou Walker, as he retires to sunny Florida. Lou spent more than 21 years in service to our nation, both in and out of uniform. Lou was there for this magazine during difficult times and was the driving force behind its successes. We wish him and his family the very best of luck.

*John C. Suttle*

## What Weapon?

IN looking at the cover of the August issue I became curious about the type of weapon then-1LT White is holding. I was not aware that the round vented hand guards and forward pistol grips were available during Vietnam.

MAJ Mark Stevens  
via e-mail

*A QUICK and informal survey of the Soldiers staffers who served during the Vietnam era (both of us) resulted in the consensus opinion that the weapon White is holding is a CAR-15, the first attempt to turn the M-16 into a carbine. It was popular with special operations types, tankers, aviators and the occasional well-armed photojournalist. We'd welcome readers' input on this topic.*

## Computer Glitch

IN reference to your July back cover piece titled "Army Transforming America, Entering the Computer Age," I believe you are wrong about the first computer. The first electronic digital computer was the Atanasoff-Berry computer from Iowa State University. Most of the ideas used in the ENIAC were "borrowed" from John V. Atanasoff.

1LT Alexis C Warden  
Ansbach, Germany

AFTER looking at the images on pages 20 and 21 of your July issue, I checked my CD files and realized that my photographers were not given proper credit for the images.

John Byerly and William Crain spent many hours documenting the Phantom Lifeline exercise. Nothing could be more disappointing than seeing your images in a magazine and not

## About That First Step...

THE July article "First Step to an Army of One" stated that young troops marched smartly into formation to the tune "I'm Proud to be an American."

The correct title of the song is "God Bless the USA," and it was written by Lee Greenwood.

Keep up the great work!

SSG Martin A. Schmidt  
Fort Rucker, Ala.

THE July article about basic training and the drill sergeants at Fort Jackson was hooah.

However, there was a major oversight. My platoon, Medic Platoon, which provides emergency care and treatment for all the CBT companies and Fort Jackson, was not mentioned.

There are a lot more soldiers involved in training today's soldiers than were portrayed in this article.

SSG Ernest Garcia Jr.  
via e-mail

A DRILL sergeant pictured in your July basic training article was incorrectly identified. The drill sergeant listed as SSG Derick Herd, 3rd Platoon, Company B, 2nd Battalion, 28th Infantry, is actually SFC David Kuhnert, 1st Plt., Co. B, 2nd Bn., 28th Inf. Regt.

I would appreciate if an outstanding drill sergeant would get the appropriate recognition.

CPT Valerie D. Henderson  
via e-mail

having proper credit given to you.

Christopher J. Varville  
Fort Hood, Texas

*WE agree that not getting credit for a photo is disappointing. We can say only that in this instance the credit lines did not accompany the photos as far as our editorial office.*

## Sniper School

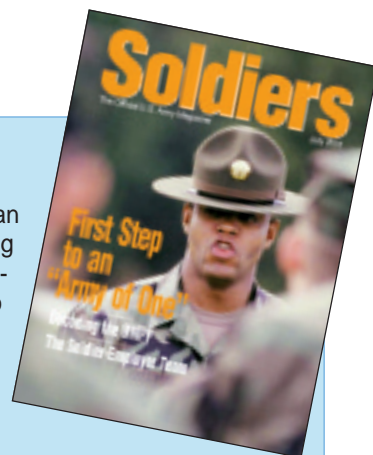
I AM currently enlisted in the Missouri Army National Guard and am very interested in attending the Sniper School men-

tioned in the May article "Without Warning, Without Remorse," at Camp Robinson, Ark.

I have been unable to locate a contact number for the school, however, and would appreciate any help you could send my way in establishing a correspondence with the school.

SPC David W. McNown  
via e-mail

*THE school's cadre should be able to help you. You can reach them at (501) 212-4548 or (DSN) 962-4548.*





## Day of Infamy

WHILE I enjoyed the articles and photos in the May issue, I did note two small errors in the article "Recreating the Day of Infamy."

First, the service rifle of the day was the M1903, not the M-1903. The Army has never used a dash between the "M" and the numeric designation.

Second, the aircraft carrier that carried the gallant Doolittle raiders and their B-25 bombers within range of Japan was the USS *Hornet*, spelled with one "t."

Terry M. Nichols  
via e-mail

YOU'RE right on both counts, though on the question of the rifle's designation, we must answer to a higher authority — the Associated Press Style Manual requires use of the hyphen (not dash) in M-1903.

## Random Shots

I HAVE a question I hope you can answer.

Every change of command, retirement or change of accountability ceremony I have been involved in has the same requirement: we must remove all watches.

At just over 18 years in the military I am still puzzled by this particular requirement. I am standing in formation with a white band on my wrist where the sun never shines, because I always wear my watch.

If you look around the formation you see gold necklaces, earrings, soldiers on shaving profiles, nonmilitary glasses and, worst of all, soldiers with diamonds imbedded in their gold-capped front teeth.

I never considered this a major problem, but generally we are so far from the reviewing stand that I doubt anyone could

see my arm, let alone my watch.  
SFC Reggie G. Johnson  
Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

P.A. Fowler of the U.S. Army Military District of Washington's Ceremonies and Special Events Office replies:

Regulations say jewelry may be worn by soldiers in uniform. There is nothing in the regulation that requires a soldier to remove a wristwatch.

HAS DA authorized the wear of a shoulder sleeve insignia for service in the former Yugoslavia?

1LT Jeff Blair  
via e-mail

ACCORDING to MSG Kittie L. Messman, ODCSPER's uni-

form specialist, no shoulder sleeve insignia for wartime service is authorized for service in the former Yugoslavia, and there is no current effort to have one authorized.

WITH all due respect to everyone who writes to Feedback, why must 90 percent of all letters nitpick such things as exact names, places and techniques?

It is great that there are so many people out there that have nothing better to do than analyze and critique this publication. But I think it's time to stop being so negative and start being positive about what our Army represents!

SFC David J. Ball  
Fort Eustis, Va.

**Soldiers** is for soldiers and DA civilians. We invite readers' views. Stay under 150 words — a post card will do — and include your name, rank and address. We'll withhold your name if you desire and may condense your views because of space. We can't publish or answer every one, but we'll use representative views. Write to: **Feedback, Soldiers**, 9325 Gunston Road, Ste. S108, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581, or e-mail: [soldiers@belvoir.army.mil](mailto:soldiers@belvoir.army.mil).



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**The 1st Cavalry Division's SFC Steven Puchino and SPC Glynn Shields prepare to move their M1 Abrams tank to a new position during training at Fort Hood.**

Paul Disney





# THE First Team

Story by SPC Jonathan Del Marcus



**F**OUR hundred fifty men, airassaulted into a valley clearing the size of a football field, discover they're suddenly surrounded by 2,000 enemy soldiers. A few days later, 2.5 miles away, the troops of a sister battalion are ambushed on the way to rescue their comrades. The cavalry rifle companies are cut into small groups, and hand-to-hand fighting ensues.

During the night, the wounded soldiers in the grass hear gunshots as enemy soldiers begin shooting anyone they find alive. The next morning, the rescue mission succeeds.

The battle took place in South Vietnam's Ia Drang Valley, at places designated as landing zones X-ray and Albany during four devastating and heroic days in November 1965, when 234 American soldiers died and more than 240 others were wounded. It involved soldiers of the 1st Cavalry Division's 1st and 2nd battalions, 7th Cav. Regiment, and 1st Bn., 5th Cav. Regt.

The action earned the division a Presidential Unit Citation, and one of its members, 2LT Walter Marm, received the Medal of Honor for breaking an enemy assault on his platoon and rallying his unit to continue its mission.

That bit of history, said division commander MG David D. McKiernan, exemplifies the quality of the 1st Cav. trooper.

SPC Jonathan Del Marcus is assigned to the 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs Office at Fort Hood, Texas.

SPC Carrie L. Fotovich



**The 1st Cav. Div. has made three Operation Desert Spring deployments to Kuwait. Here a Bradley joins a British vehicle during a training exercise.**



# Spotlight on the Army Divisions



MAJ David Farlow

“The equipment might change, technology continues to evolve and operational conditions are ever-changing — but it’s the cav trooper who makes the difference,” McKiernan said at last year’s 1st Cav. Div. Association Reunion in Fayetteville, N.C. “We have a saying in the division — ‘only soldiers win battles.’”

The emphasis on soldiers begins from the time a trooper arrives at Fort Hood, Texas, and signs into the unit. The commanding general addresses new personnel every month with the greeting: “My name is McKiernan. I am just one member of a large team made up of many smaller teams. The 1st Cav. Div. is a team of teams.”

The First Team soldier is also an inheritor of a long tradition of excellence amid the changing nature of warfare and its evolving doctrines.

Units that would help form the future 1st Cav. Div. used horses in the Indian wars. They fought as infantry soldiers during World War II and the Korean War, then transformed again into a mobile fighting force moved by helicopter during the Vietnam War.

From 1971 to 1975, the First Team was a tri-capability division, employing armor, infantry and aviation. It converted to a heavy-armor division in 1975 and fought as such in the Gulf War.

## America’s 911

In today’s First Team, approximately 17,000 soldiers in 27 battalions engage in numerous training exercises and deployments. Training and readiness are the division’s main priorities as it fulfills the mission of being the Army’s armored contingency force — “America’s ‘911’ on-call heavy division.”

The division has conducted three Operation Desert Spring deployments to Kuwait, where battalion-sized task forces train separately and jointly with the Kuwaiti army.

**A 1st Cav. UH-60 Black Hawk prepares to lift a sling-loaded Humvee during a National Training Center rotation by the division’s 3rd Bde. Combat Team.**





Paul Disney



**Tank commander SSG David Gonzales (left), his gunner, SPC Demetrie Lott (center) and PFC Stuart Lacy, driver of another tank, load training ammunition into an M1.**

The division deployed to Bosnia-Herzegovina as a part of Multinational Division (North) during 1998 and 1999, and it is scheduled to deploy troops to Kosovo in November 2003.

Division soldiers were in Montana last summer helping firefighters battle the blazes that were destroying the forests and threatening people's homes, yet training continued as brigade combat teams completed rotations at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif.

The division was scheduled to convert to the Force XXI structure this summer. The most visible part of the task begins with the fielding of a variety of new equipment, including new variants of the M1A2 Abrams tank.

The 1st Bn., 227th Avn. Regt., recently sent 16 advanced AH-64D Apache Longbow attack helicopters to NTC in support of 4th Infantry Div.'s Digital Capstone exercise. Ongoing 1st Cav. training in the past year has included military operations on urbanized terrain training, expert infantryman badge qualifications and expert field medical badge qualifications.

## First Team Community Life

Improving the quality of life for 1st Cav. Div. soldiers and their family members often means personal involvement. For example, Carmen McKiernan, the commanding general's wife, and Ruth Inman, the division command sergeant major's wife,

worked for almost a year to have a new kitchen facility installed in the division's Soldier and Family Readiness Center.

As one of its missions, the center helps family members keep in touch with deployed loved ones, and it provides families and friends a place to socialize and eat together.

First Team members also participate in numerous local community activities, both for recreation and to create closer ties with their neighbors.

Units in the division often take part in local festivals or sponsor local civic groups, and individual soldiers are active volunteers in a range of civic activities.

Representing the division in uniform, the honor guard and band often perform at local and national events, and the "Horse Cavalry Detachment" participates in festivals and other events to remind audiences of the division's roots, when cavalry soldiers expanded and protected America's frontiers. The mounted ceremonial unit appeared in both the 2001 Tournament of Roses Parade in

Paul Disney



**SFC James Walker, one of 17,000 soldiers assigned to the 1st Cav., climbs aboard his M1. The division converted to a heavy-armor force in 1975.**

# Spotlight on the Army Divisions



**1LT Carrie Williams (left) prepares for a mission in a UH-60 of the 2nd Bn., 227th Avn. Regt. An Apache of the 227th's 1st Bn. (above) maneuvers during training. The battalion recently sent 16 AH-64Ds to the National Training Center.**



PFC Stephanie Shepard (inset); PFC Ben Morning (main photo)

Pasadena, Calif., and President George W. Bush's inauguration parade in Washington, D.C.

The First Team's community outreach also extends beyond Texas' borders. Last September, for example, division soldiers welcomed Christian Vierthaler, a boy from Kansas who was battling cancer. Christian's Fort Hood visit included events held in his honor, opportunities to meet soldiers and experience Army life, and presentations of gifts and handmade mementos.

In a letter to the editor of the Fort Hood newspaper, Christian's father wrote:

"The men and women of the 1st Cavalry Division demonstrated human qualities of compassion and courage and caring that we all strive to achieve and to instill in our children. The actions and kindness of the 1st Cav. makes me proud to be an American and will forever redefine my respect for America's fighting corps."

## The 1st Cavalry in History

By PFC Stephanie Shepard

**T**HE 1st Cavalry Division — including the 5th, 7th and 8th cavalry regiments — was activated in September 1921 at Fort Bliss, Texas.

With the technological progress of the 1940s, the usefulness of horse-mounted soldiers diminished and the division entered World War II as "foot-cavalry."

Serving in the Pacific Theatre, the division stormed the beaches of Los Negros Island, fighting a fierce campaign in March 1944. In October it landed on the Philippine Island of Leyte and, when the last Japanese stronghold was eliminated, the 1st Cav. moved onto Luzon and in February 1945 was the first division to enter the Philippine capital, Manila.

MG William C. Chase took command months later, and his nickname for the division, "First Team," was well received

and remains alive today. That September the division led occupation forces into Tokyo.

In the first amphibious landing of the Korean War — on July 18, 1950 — the 1st Cav. stormed ashore at Pohang-dong as part of the force charged with establishing the Pusan Perimeter. The division began offensive operations to the north and crossed the 38th parallel Oct. 9, closing on North Korea's capital 10 days later.

The division was redesignated as the Army's first airmobile division in July 1965, and within 90 days was back in combat as the first fully committed U.S. division of the Vietnam War, earning a Presidential Unit Citation for its Pleiku Campaign.

As part of I Corps during North Vietnam's 1968 Tet offensive, the division helped liberate the besieged cities of Hue and Quang Tri, then flew in to relieve the Marine base under siege at Khe Son. In

PFC Stephanie Shepard is assigned to the 1st Cav. Div. PAO at Fort Hood, Texas.





## A Symbol of Pride

First Team soldiers display a large measure of esprit de corps and take much pride in the division's long and colorful history. Nothing better exemplifies their sense of pride than "the big yellow patch," the largest patch in the Army.

"The big yellow patch does something to an individual that makes him a better soldier, a better team member, a better American than he otherwise would have been," said GEN Creighton Abrams, commander of U.S. forces at one point in the Vietnam War.

"Mother Dorcy," wife of COL Benjamin Dorcy, commander of the 7th Cav. Regt., designed the patch in 1921 at Fort Bliss, Texas, for the newly organized division.

The patch is proudly worn and displayed by members of the 1st Cav. Div. Association when they meet annually to renew old friendships and

begin new ones. The association has more than 50,000 members, both active duty and veterans.

"Serving in the cavalry forms an everlasting bond – a bond that links generations of 1st Cav. troopers together. Together as brothers in arms, mind and spirit," McKiernan said at last year's reunion.

There is a large mat at the entrance to the division's Fort Hood headquarters building that reminds all 1st Cav. soldiers of one indisputable and everlasting truth about America's First Team — "It's a great team, it's our team, it's the first team." □



Paul Disney

**The 1st Cav. was among the first Army units to receive the AH-64D Apache, and the advanced attack helicopter is an integral part of the division's order of battle.**

May 1970 it was first into Cambodia.

Redeployment to Fort Hood began one year later when the division was reorganized into a tri-capability unit combining the strengths of infantry, armor and aviation in an armor brigade, air mobility brigade and air cavalry brigade configuration.

In August 1990 the division deployed to Southwest Asia to help deter Iraqi aggression during Operation Desert Shield, and in January 1991 it staged elaborate feints in support of the main ground effort in Operation Desert Storm. The division's soldiers were the first to engage the enemy during the ground war, and sustained the first enemy-inflicted casualties.

More recently, the 1st Cav. was selected for the mission of Task Force Eagle, conducting peace support operations in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Division soldiers served there from September 1998 to August 1999. □



**Soldiers of the 1st Cav. engage North Korean snipers in October 1950. The division had carried out the first amphibious landing of the Korean War the previous July.**



**Students at high schools in school districts in or near nine Army installations will now find it easier to transfer, thanks to an Army-sponsored study of mobile teens.**

**Washington, D.C.**

## Agreement Aids Mobile Teens

TRANSFERRING between high schools in school districts surrounding or on nine Army installations may be getting a little easier — thanks to an Army-sponsored study of mobile Army teens.

Participating school systems are Muscogee County Public Schools near Fort Benning, Ga.; El Paso Independent School District near Fort Bliss, Texas; Cumberland County Public Schools near Fort Bragg, N.C.; Killeen Independent School District near Fort Hood, Texas; Clover Park School District No. 400 near Fort Lewis, Wash.; Lawton Public Schools near Fort Sill, Okla.; and Department of Defense School Systems schools at Fort Campbell, Ky.; Baumholder, Germany; and in Korea.

"The agreement among these nine school systems will improve predictability and en-

hance the quality of life for our soldiers and our families. We want to ensure no military child is left behind," said Army Chief of Staff GEN Eric K. Shinseki.

A 1997 Secondary Education Transition Study concluded that Army installations, parents and schools need to work together to ease students' transition problems. Fixes to the majority of these problems are identified in the SETS memorandum of agreement. These include:

- Allowing parents to carry student records from one school system to another.
- Developing virtual orientation tours of schools for posting on school and installation websites.
- Posting information about extracurricular activities on school and installation websites.
- Communicating high school requirements for enhanced or alternate diplomas; options and opportunities for earning graduation credit; information about required state testing; and opportunities avail-

able to senior students in transition.

- Modeling what should be in a student portfolio.
- Including a senior military member from the supported installation as an ex-officio member or adviser to the district school board or council.

The MOA is likely to include many more school districts in the near future, said MAJ Becky Porter, a special assistant for education to the

chief of staff of the Army.

One thing to note, she said, is that the MOA is not between the Army and the school districts; it is an agreement among the districts themselves. Other school districts may join the agreement on a voluntary basis, she added, as long as they join without requirements to change the basic MOA.

While the SETS agreement establishes a framework for the successful transfer of mobile

## Hometown News

### Soldiers Can Send Holiday Greetings

THE Hometown News Service, buoyed by feedback from the launch of last year's Newspaper Holiday Greetings program, is continuing to build this free service for soldiers and hometown newspapers.

Unlike the broadcast holiday greetings program, which is limited to soldiers serving in certain overseas locations, the Newspaper Holiday Greetings program is open to all soldiers.

"Computer technology enabled extension of the popular radio and television holiday greetings concept to the print media," said Gerry Proctor, Army and Air Force Hometown News Service chief of marketing.

The Newspaper Holiday Greetings program is administered by each soldier's public affairs office. The greeting form is filled out and submitted online by the service member, and the information is transmitted to a Hometown News database to be released to hometown editors.

The entire process is automated from the moment the person filling out the online form clicks the "send" button to the final step, when Hometown News e-mails the greetings to newspaper editors. And because there are no paper forms to fill out or process, there is no limit to the number of greetings Hometown News can process.

Public affairs offices will set up areas for soldiers to fill out the forms, Proctor said.

In addition to having several releases generated from each form, the service member can also input multiple forms.

"You can submit as many greetings as you want," Proctor said. "You can send holiday greetings to your parents, in-laws, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles and anyone who is a relative, as long as you have their cities, states and zip codes."

Contact your local public affairs office for more information about the program. — *Army, Air Force Hometown News Service*



youths, it does not guarantee it, said Dr. Mary M. Keller, Military Child Education Coalition executive director.

Copies of the SETS executive summary and MOA, and an academic advocacy guide for parents, will be distributed to all Army installation commanders and school liaison of-

fices, Porter said. — *Army News Service*

**San Diego, Calif.**

## Navy Honors Fallen Soldier

THE Navy honored an Army hero when it recently christened

the transport ship USNS *Pomeroy*.

Soldiers from the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, of Fort Drum, N.Y., served as the color guard at the christening at the National Steel and Shipbuilding Company's shipyard in San Diego.

*Pomeroy* was named for PFC Ralph Pomeroy, a machine-gunner with Company E, 31st Inf. Regt., 7th Inf. Division, in the Korean War. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for heroism on Oct. 15, 1952, in the battle of Triangle Hill.

Pomeroy served on the front line for most of his tour in Korea. He was injured once and was sent to a military hospital for treatment. When he recovered, Pomeroy returned to the front line, where he was killed in action at age 22.

His sisters, Arlene Castle and Nancy Pomeroy, spoke at the event. They described him as a loving, patriotic man, who was always concerned with the well-being of those around him.

*Pomeroy* was christened in the traditional way, with a champagne bottle broken over her bow. Arlene Castle and Nancy Pomeroy were chosen to do the honors. After the bottle was broken, the last braces holding the ship were released and *Pomeroy* slid into the Pacific Ocean.

The vessel will transport military equipment to potential areas of conflict.

California Congressman Randy Cunningham said *Pomeroy* and her sister ships will be the logistical backbone of the military. They will preposition heavy combat equipment and supplies for the nation's armed forces.

"Just as PFC Pomeroy enabled his platoon to contain the enemy, the USNS *Pomeroy* will be the force behind the force," Cunningham said. "This ship stands as a beacon to Private Pomeroy and his heroism under fire and his ultimate sacrifice for our nation." — *27th Public Affairs Detachment*

## Reserve Personnel News

### AR-PERSCOM Expands Response Line

THE Army Reserve Personnel Command has just launched two new Interactive Voice Response applications to better answer soldier's questions via the telephone.

Information about the Active Guard Reserve program and promotion boards can be accessed by calling designated IVR lines.

Soldiers can learn about the AGR program, download an application, request an application by mail or check the status of a submitted application by calling the AGR IVR. The IVR also offers assistance on completing the application.

An AGR application packet can be downloaded through the AR-PERSCOM website, [www.2xcitizen.usar.army.mil](http://www.2xcitizen.usar.army.mil).

Soldiers can call the Promotions IVR to find out if they are eligible for an upcoming mandatory board, and can find out the name, convening and recess date of that board. Soldiers can determine if any education documents are missing from the microfiches sent in with their board packets, and can check the status of board packet mailings and when they should be received.

Soldiers can also determine if they have been selected for promotion, and officers can find out if the promotion consideration file determined if they were educationally qualified. Callers can also be transferred to a standby board specialist.

To use the AGR IVR, call the Full Time Support Management Directorate at (800) 325-4118 or (314) 592-1234; USAR Board Support at (314) 592-0673; or Customer Contact Office at (314) 592-0575.

To use the Promotions IVR, call the new number, (877) 215-9834, or the existing call trees, (314) 592-1200 or (314) 592-1212.

AR-PERSCOM introduced an IVR system for evaluations earlier this year. This phone system enables soldiers and units to check the status of the most recent evaluations. Start date, end date, received date, status and completion date of the most recent evaluations are all provided by calling the Evaluations IVR system, (800) 648-5484. — *ARNEWS*



**PFC Ralph Pomeroy's sisters accept a commemorative plaque following the christening of the vessel named for their brother.**

SSG Jack Siemieniec



**Members of the 3rd Bde., 2nd Inf. Div., display a prototype of the IBCT's Interim Armored Vehicle at the Pentagon.**

## Washington

### Army Selects Next IBCTs

FORTS Richardson and Wainwright, Alaska; Fort Polk, La.; Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; and the Pennsylvania Army National Guard will host the next units selected to transition into Interim Brigade Combat Teams.

The latest brigade selections are conditional on results of an ongoing Army Programmatic Environmental Impact Study, officials said. That study is slated to wrap up in the fall.

Transformation to the IBCT design for the brigades is anticipated to take about one year for an active-component brigade and about two years for an Army National Guard brigade, Army officials said.

The first brigades to transform — the 3rd Brigade of the 2nd Infantry Division and the

1st Bde. of the 25th Inf. Div., both stationed at Fort Lewis, Wash. — started the transition to IBCTs in 1999. They are scheduled to finish the process in fiscal years 2003 and 2004, respectively.

The Army plan is to complete fielding of the Interim Armored Vehicle for the other four brigades within three years after the Fort Lewis brigades are fielded. Once the new fielding dates are set, the Army will announce the planning dates for the other brigades.

"The Interim Brigade Combat Teams are required to fill a recognized operational gap in our current capability to meet commander-in-chief requirements," said Army Chief of Staff GEN Eric K. Shinseki. "These warfighting formations, using off-the-shelf equipment with enhanced technologies, provide the CINC with a greater range of options." — *ARNEWS*

## Veterans News

### Veterans Augment Funeral Teams

DOD is partnering with veterans service organizations across the country to enhance traditional funeral ceremonies that honor the nation's veterans.

Representatives of the Secretary of Defense, the military services, the Department of Veterans Affairs, veterans service organizations, the National Cemetery Administration, the Funeral Directors Association and other groups met recently for the announcement of the Authorized Provider Partnership Program's July debut.

Charles S. Abell, assistant secretary of defense for force-management policy, said the veterans groups will be asked to augment DOD-provided personnel at military funerals by providing volunteer color guards, rifle detail members, pallbearers and buglers.

The National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2000 authorizes the partnership and states that DOD will provide at least two active, National Guard or Reserve uniformed service members to fold and present a ceremonial U.S. flag to survivors at military funerals.

DOD also provides a military musician — if available — to play "Taps," or the music is rendered via high-quality compact disc. The CDs are part of a kit sent to licensed funeral directors working in association with DOD, veterans service organizations, and all active and reserve-component military units conducting funerals. Almost 450,000 active-duty and reserve-component service members participated in military funeral details in 2000.

"What we have now is a formal program in which veterans service organizations can be trained by the local installation commander ... to ensure that the quality of the honors rendered are to standard and that the funeral honors rendered in any particular place around the nation will be the same," Abell said.

Installation commanders will train and certify volunteers, Abell said. The volunteers, he added, are eligible for reimbursement of their travel expenses, such as gas and meals associated with their ceremonial duties.

DOD officials note that 91,074 military funerals were performed in 2000, a 110-percent increase over the 43,277 funerals performed in 1999.

Providing final honors for the nation's veterans is "the right thing to do," Abell said. "We asked them to put their lives on the line for the freedoms we all enjoy today. As they reach the end of their lives, the nation has a commitment to them, owes them an honor as they pass. For those who want that honor, we will provide it."

For more information about the program, and how to request such services, see the Military Funeral Honors website at [www.militaryfuneralhonors.osd.mil](http://www.militaryfuneralhonors.osd.mil). — *American Forces Press Service*





# The New Look of Army Housing

Story by  
LTC Marian R. Hansen

**T**HE quality of life for married soldiers and their families at Fort Carson, Colo., is getting better because of housing privatization, said COL Peter Topp, the installation's director of public works.

"By 2004, every family on post will be living in a new or like-new house.

LTC Marian R. Hansen is a public affairs officer assigned to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations and Environment.



Several innovative floor-plans will be available to Army families through housing privatization.

That was simply impossible under the conventional military-construction model," Topp said of the changes at Fort Carson.

One of the most impressive aspects of the construction is the speed at which it's occurring, Topp said. "The contractor broke ground on the 840 new houses in March 2000 and the first family moved in only seven months later," he said.

New houses are being completed at the rate of 21 units every month and all will be done by 2003. Renovation of all the existing housing is also a part of the program and that is progressing just as rapidly — at a rate of 40 houses each month.

Topp said the new homes are built to local commercial standards and include features such as double sinks in master bathrooms, walk-in closets, ceiling fans, and washers and dryers conveniently located on the second floor. Adding to the family-friendly environment are neighborhoods that include playgrounds, green space, running and biking trails, statues and a community center.

How did Fort Carson provide these new homes and amenities in such a short time? The answer is the Army's Residential Communities Initiative, a new program to create and renovate military housing, said Ted Lipham, RCI director.

The Army's family housing inventory is in critical condition, Lipham explained. Approximately

two-thirds of on-post housing units need major repairs, renovation or replacement, and there's a substantial deficit of suitable housing in many of the communities surrounding Army installations.

Under RCI, the Army is establishing partnerships with private developers to renovate, design and construct all family housing on selected posts. The development partners will also arrange for financing from private investors, hire and manage the contractors, operate the facilities, and provide ongoing maintenance and repair.

Once the units are privatized, the soldiers who live in them will receive their Basic Allowance for Housing and, using an electronic funds transfer, a specified amount will go to the developer for rent. Soldiers will receive another specified amount of the BAH to pay for utilities.

The Army's strategy is to privatize family housing where it makes sense and is financially feasible, while military construction funds will be used at sites where privatization is not feasible, Lipham said.

RCI programs have already begun at Fort Carson; Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Lewis, Wash.; and Fort Meade, Md. — and the Army is planning to expand the RCI to at least 16 more installations over the next four years. □

*New houses are being completed at the rate of 21 units every month and all will be done by 2003.*

# OPBAT

# Soldiers

Story and Photos by Steve Harding

**T**HE Black Hawk is in a tight right-hand turn at 300 feet, revealing every detail of the small island below to the two men in the back of the helicopter. One is a U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration agent, the other is a member of the Royal Bahamas Police Force. Both are looking for the same thing — any sign of the drug smugglers that they, and the UH-60's Army crew, are tasked with stopping.

Once it's clear that the coral outcropping is deserted, the UH-60 levels out and heads toward the next in a string of small islands that stretches northwest toward the horizon. The late-afternoon view is idyllic — the aquamarine water is dotted with sailboats and the coming sunset tinges the sky ahead with shades of red and gold. But when night falls the area will become the scene of an ongoing maritime cat-and-mouse game pitting smugglers against the people and aircraft of OPBAT, a multinational, multiservice counterdrug effort in which the Army plays a vital role.

## Origins of a Drug War

The 700 islands that dot the Atlantic Ocean from just east of Florida to just north of Haiti have historically been a convenient area of operations for pirates, smugglers and other seaborne brigands. The South American drug cartels that sprang up in the 1970s quickly realized the strategic value of the sparsely populated region, and the islands soon became a vital transshipment point for cocaine and marijuana bound for the United States.

The police forces of the Bahamas and the British-administered Turks and Caicos islands were ill-equipped to locate and stop the smugglers' aircraft and small boats. OPBAT — Operation Bahamas, Turks and Caicos — thus began in 1982 as a joint U.S., Bahamian and British effort to interdict the flow of illegal drugs into and through the 100,000-square-mile area, while at the same time assisting the islands' police and military forces in drug-control operations.

Given the vast area that had to be

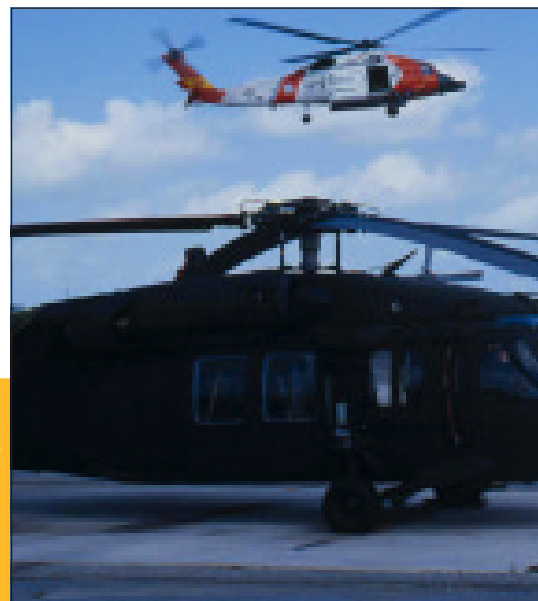
patrolled and the few runways capable of supporting fixed-wing aircraft, helicopters were an early addition to the OPBAT arsenal. Though aviation support was initially provided by the Air Force, it eventually became a Coast Guard responsibility. That service retains tactical control of OPBAT's aviation operations, which the Army joined in 1986.

## Organized for Success

OPBAT is a DEA-run operation and Tom Hill, the agency's counternarcotics attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Nassau, has overall responsibility for the mission. As

**Though OPBAT's Army Black Hawks and Coast Guard Jayhawks are similar in appearance, each has different strengths.**

*Soldiers play a major role in Operation Bahamas, Turks and Caicos, a DEA-run effort to interdict the flow of illegal drugs into and through a 100,000-square-mile area dotted with 700 islands.*







During a routine patrol SPC William C. Hatch, a UH-60 crew chief, looks for anything out of the ordinary on one of the Bahamas' 700 islands.



One of the most challenging aspects of OPBAT operations, pilots agree, is the need for long periods of overwater flight while wearing night-vision goggles.

## Counterdrug operations of OPBAT

director of OPBAT's embassy operations center, Coast Guard Cmdr. Bryan Seale is in charge of the military assets, and 1LT Marc Werner is the embassy-based Army liaison officer.

There are three OPBAT operating sites — one in Nassau, on New Providence Island; one about 125 miles to the southeast on Great Exuma Island; and one a further 250 miles out on Great Inagua Island. The Nassau and Great Inagua sites each have two Coast Guard HH-60 Jayhawk helicopters, while Great Exuma hosts three Army UH-60L Black Hawks. The DEA also has aircraft based in the Bahamas — a fixed wing airplane and a Bell 412 helicopter — that are dedicated primarily to logistical support.

"Each OPBAT site is maintained and operated by the appropriate

Living in the

## Bahamas

SOLDIERS assigned to the Army's OPBAT detachment readily admit that living in the Bahamas has obvious benefits—sun, sand and ocean — and that the quality of life is good.

"There's nowhere else the Army's going to send me where I'll get to see such blue water and such beautiful skies," said SGT Lori Lee Anstey, the detachment's flight operations specialist. "And the reality is that we live in a part of the world that other people pay thousands of dollars just to visit for a few days."

Other than 1LT Marc Werner, who

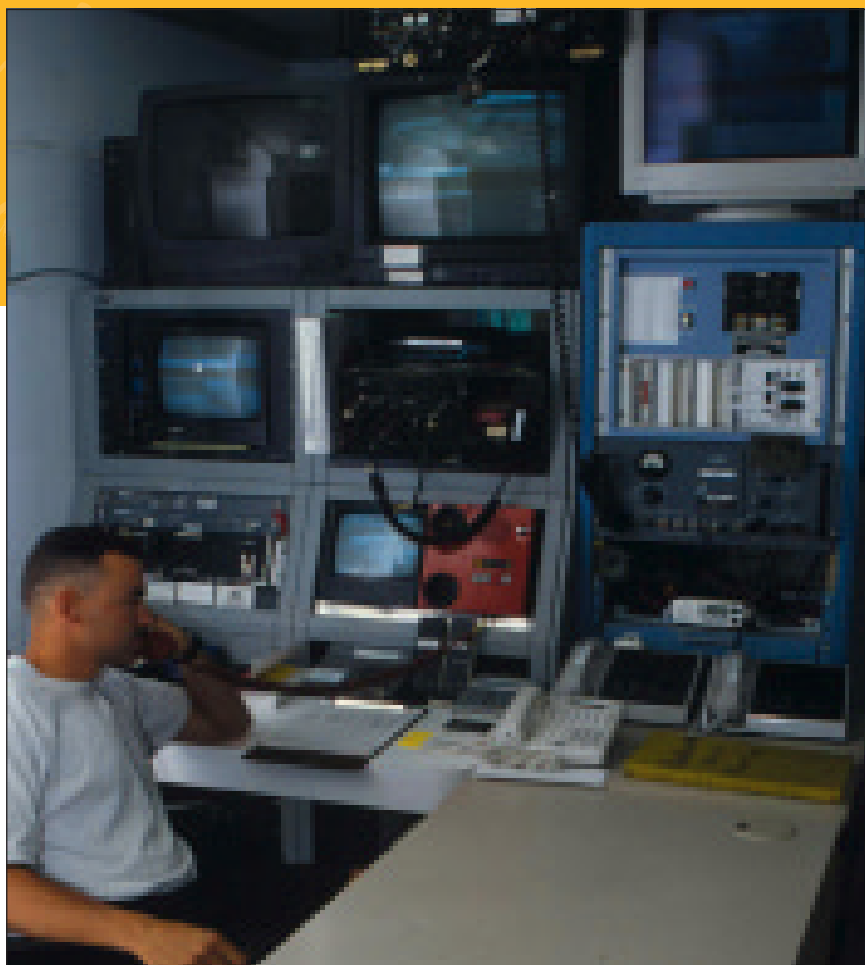


service,” Seale said, “though we work together closely. The Army and Coast Guard personnel get along very well — there is constant communication and cooperation — and their aircraft stage through each other’s operating bases whenever necessary.”

The military aircraft are tasked with two main missions, Hill said. The first is to conduct aerial patrols to gather intelligence about drug-smuggling operations, and the second is to locate and intercept specific aircraft and boats engaged in smuggling.

“Every time an OPBAT helicopter goes out on a law-enforcement mission — whether it’s a routine patrol or

**The operations center at the Great Exuma airfield allows the Army aviators to remain in constant touch with each other, and with all the other OPBAT agencies.**



lives and works in Nassau, all of the soldiers assigned to OPBAT live in leased housing not far from the detachment’s small airfield on Great Exuma. The apartment-style units each have one or two bedrooms, a kitchen and a living room, and in most cases are shared by two people. There is also a communal dayroom and a one-room medical clinic.

The housing complex sits on a small bay and has its own pier, which is home to a motorboat and two Sea-dos used for both mission-related training and for the soldiers’ off-duty use. Great Exuma boasts several excellent beaches, great fishing and excellent snorkeling, and a pace of life generally more relaxed than that found on other, more populous islands in the Bahamas.

Unfortunately, the same relative iso-

lation that makes Great Exuma such a wonderful vacation spot can make it something less than an exciting place to live full time, soldiers said.

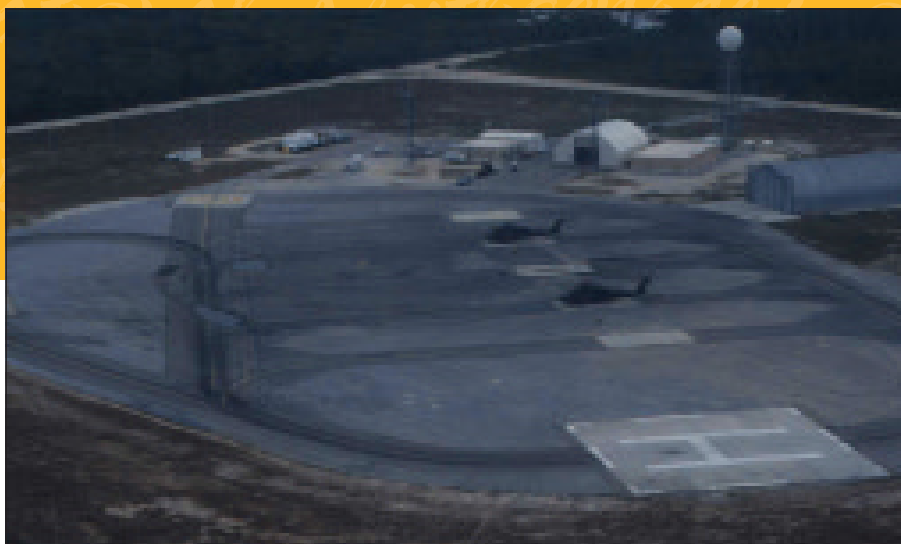
“The recreation possibilities are great,” said SPC William C. Hatch, a UH-60 crew chief, “but once you’ve eaten in the two or three restaurants and visited the handful of shops in George Town, you’ve just about exhausted the island’s nightlife options.”

“Most people hear the word ‘Bahamas’ and they have the illusion that it couldn’t be any better, but it can get old,” said 1LT Mariclare Kenney, a pilot. “If the weather’s bad, there is really nothing to do other than work. We can’t complain, though, because it’s obviously much better than where most other soldiers are. But it’s also not the tropical paradise that most people imagine.”

Anstey feels that how well soldiers adapt to life on the island depends on how much they apply themselves to what they want to do.

“You can get in shape, you can work on correspondence and online courses, or you can just veg out and watch videos,” she said. “You can pretty much apply yourself to anything you want to do.”

“We all agree that there are drawbacks to living on a small island,” Anstey added, “but the bottom line is that the quality of life here is a lot better than it could be. Where else is the Army going to give you two jet skis and a boat and fishing equipment and say: ‘In your off time, have some fun.’ And the best part is you actually get to know the people you work with. It really doesn’t get much better.” — *Steve Harding*



**One of three OPBAT operating sites, the Great Exuma airfield is home to three UH-60Ls and all but one of the soldiers assigned to the joint counterdrug effort.**

responding to a target — it carries a law-enforcement team,” Hill said. That team consists of a host-nation police officer — either Bahamian or Turks and Caicos — and a DEA agent.

## Elusive Targets

“Though the helicopters occasionally intercept aircraft that are either attempting to drop drugs to waiting vessels or land on deserted islands,” Hill said, “the small, high-speed boats — which we call ‘go-fasts’ — are the primary threat right now.”

Ranging from 28 to 40 feet long and fitted with three or four 200- to 250-horsepower engines, the boats are very light and very fast, Hill said. They can carry from a few hundred pounds to more than 5,000 pounds of Colombian cocaine or Jamaican-grown marijuana, and the tactics employed by the go-fasts’ crews can make them extremely difficult to intercept.

“Most come out of Jamaica and head northeast into the Windward Passage between Cuba and Haiti, then turn northwest,” Hill said. “The smugglers hug the Cuban coast, knowing that American aircraft will not violate the island nation’s sovereignty and that Cuba’s poorly equipped border guards have little hope of catching them.”

About halfway up Cuba’s northern coast the smugglers turn their boats

north and race into Bahamian territory, hoping to make landfall unobserved. The OPBAT helicopters “give us the ability to locate, track and stop the go-fasts,” Hill said.

## Choosing the Asset

When the OPBAT control center gets word of an incoming go-fast boat or a suspicious aircraft, Seale and the DEA’s embassy-based group supervisor confer on the best way to use the

Army and Coast Guard aircraft to interdict the target.

“The DEA group supervisor looks at it from the ‘how do we stop this boat or aircraft?’ point of view, while I’m focused on making the best use of our available assets,” Seale said. “I’m tasked with being the expert on all the aviation-related rules and regulations, and on how best to employ our aircraft to achieve the DEA’s interdiction goal.”

Seale must take into account such specifically aviation-related concerns as aircraft range, maximum fuel load, crew-rest requirements and other limitations. He’s aided in these determinations by Werner, a rated UH-60 pilot who spent two months flying operational missions out of the Great Exuma facility before taking up his liaison post at the embassy.

“There are important differences between Army and Coast Guard



**An Army technician (at right) helps the crew of a Coast Guard HH-60 troubleshoot an avionics problem. Cooperation between the two services is close and effective.**





Light, powerful and difficult to intercept, “go-fast” boats like this one can carry significant loads of cocaine or marijuana. DEA photo

aviation operations,” Werner said. “For example, we have different policies that determine how many hours a pilot is allowed to fly within a certain period of time. The Coast Guard’s tend to be more lenient because of the type of flying its pilots normally do, while the Army’s more restrictive policy takes into account things like nap-of-the-earth flight. And those policies are the same whether we’re flying in the Bahamas or Bosnia.”

Seale, an aviator himself, said that each service brings a unique set of skills to the mission. The Coast Guard crews, for example, are very experienced in long-distance overwater flying, especially in bad weather. The Army aviators, on the other hand, have extensive experience in low-level tactical flying and the use of night-vision goggles.

“Could we do this job with three Coast Guard units? Absolutely. Could it be done with three Army units? Certainly. Are we better off having the mix of Army and Coast Guard capabilities? Yes, there’s no doubt that we

are, because each service brings real strengths into the mix,” Seale said.

The decision whether to use Army or Coast Guard aircraft for a particular mission is made, Seale said, based on two factors.

The first is location — the aircraft that is closer is more likely to get the mission. This ensures more economical use of the aircraft and crew, as well as ensuring that the aircraft arrives on-scene sooner.

The second consideration is the helicopters’ different capabilities. Just as the crews of each service have differing skills, their aircraft have different strengths. Though the UH-

60s and HH-60s are generally similar in appearance, they differ in significant ways. The Black Hawk, for example, can carry more people than the Jayhawk, so if a particular mission requires the transportation of a large number of people, the UH-60 will probably fly that mission.

## **OPBAT Soldiers**

Once the decision is made about which aircraft will launch on a particular mission, the order goes out to the appropriate operating site. For the Army, that means Great Exuma.

*Given the vast area to be patrolled and the shortage of runways for fixed-wing aircraft, helicopters are a vital part of OPBAT’s arsenal.*



**A DEA agent (left) and a Bahamian police officer scan the sea for suspicious vessels. Similar two-person teams are aboard all OPBAT helicopters flying law-enforcement missions.**

A small facility a few miles outside George Town, the Army's OPBAT site is home to three UH-60L helicopters and a detachment of about 25 soldiers drawn from the, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment, home-based at Hunter Army Air Field, Ga. The soldiers are assigned to OPBAT for rotations averaging two to three months. Many have served in the Bahamas several times, and each brings particular skills to the detachment.

"We're a microcosm of a battalion here," said CPT Richard Debany, commander of both Company A, 2nd Bn., 3rd Avn., and of the OPBAT detachment. "I've got the whole range of job skills — pilots, crew chiefs, shops people, technical inspectors, communications, petroleum and operations specialists, and a medic. Most come from 2/3 Avn., but we sometimes draw people from other units. We all form a cohesive team."

And that team's goal — to help

it's Christmas or Thanksgiving or whatever, if a mission comes up, we go. Everybody works very hard.

"And the high operational tempo ensures that crews log a lot of flight time very quickly," Kenney said. "For example, in 10 weeks here I've built up close to 100 hours, whereas back in Savannah it would take me well over a year to log that much time."

## ***Flying the Mission***

Given the nature of the OPBAT mission and the operational conditions in the Bahamas, the flight hours the aviators log can be tough ones.

"We not only intercept and track aircraft and go-fasts," Debany said, "we put law-enforcement personnel on the ground to make arrests, and we transport prisoners and confiscated drugs. We obviously do a lot of overwater flying and land on a lot of very small coral outcroppings that

stop smugglers — requires a constant effort by every member of the detachment.

"This is an intense mission," said 1LT Mariclare Kenney, a detachment pilot. "It's 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It doesn't make any

difference whether

aren't much larger than the helicopter. And much of the flying we do is done while wearing night-vision goggles."

"The most challenging thing about overwater flying here is doing it while wearing NVGs," Kenney said. "It's great when you have good moon illumination, because you can see for miles — it's almost like flying during the day. But when there is little or no moon illumination, it's very hard to tell where the sky ends and the water begins."

The secret to success under such challenging conditions, said detachment pilot CW2 Trina Sorrell, is excellent crew coordination.

"Everyone really has to work together," she said. "During a boat chase, for example, one pilot concentrates on flying the aircraft and staying with the boat, and the other works all the radios and does all the coordination with the other players. And the crew chief calls out the radar altimeter altitude and keeps track of the fuel transfers. It's all about teamwork, and about accomplishing the mission."

## ***A Job Well Done***

The effort OPBAT soldiers put into accomplishing the mission is obviously appreciated by the other agencies and individuals involved in the ongoing counternarcotics operation.

"These soldiers are really making an important contribution down here," Hill said. "And I don't think people

*"This can be a challenging environment, and when these soldiers are chasing a go-fast or trying to break up the airdrop of drugs, they are on the front line. And we in DEA are very glad to have them down here."*



realize how dangerous a mission it can be. There are long flights, over water, in low-light conditions. This can be a challenging environment, and when these soldiers are chasing a go-fast or trying to break up the airdrop of drugs, they are on the front line. And we in DEA are very glad to have them down here."

"We couldn't accomplish what we do if the Army wasn't here," Seale added. "Look at a map of this region, and you'll see that the Army's operating base on Great Exuma is probably the most strategically important base

OPBAT has. Combine that with the soldiers' unique set of skills and their intense motivation, and it makes them absolutely and unequivocally essential to OPBAT's success."

For their part, the OPBAT soldiers take obvious pride in the role they play in the fight against illegal drugs.

"Everybody in this detachment knows that we're part of an important, real-world mission," Debany said.

"We're focused on one purpose — having an aircraft ready to accomplish the mission 24 hours a day, seven days a week, every week of the year.

"And though most people probably aren't even aware that there is an Army aviation unit in the Bahamas," he added, "it's nice to be able to look at the monthly statistics — of boats intercepted and drugs confiscated — and say to yourself, 'Well, that's what we did this month, and we did it safely.' It's a source of pride for us, and I think it should be a source of pride for the Army." □



**Corrosion is a constant threat during overwater operations, and the UH-60s go through a post-flight "bird bath" to wash off accumulated salt.**



DEA photo

**Since 1982 OPBAT has interdicted tons of marijuana and cocaine that otherwise would have reached the United States.**



## Ending the Confusion About “Home of Record”

**S**ORTING out the legal definitions for “legal residence,” “residence” and “home of record” often confounds new soldiers — and some who have been in the Army for several years. Consider, for example, the situation described in this question:

“I’m confused. The military says my legal residence is that of my home of record noted in my official personnel files. My neighbor says its Arizona, where I bought land and pay real-estate taxes. My wife says she has her own legal residence.

“Now my squad leader says my residence is Georgia, where I’m stationed. Since I’m a ‘military brat’ and a career soldier, I thought my legal residence is the Adjutant General’s Office, Washington, D.C.

“Yesterday, my sergeant advised that I should declare Texas as my legal residence, since Texas has no income taxes and everyone else has done it. Can you clarify this issue for me?”

### Home of Record

Home of record is the state, territory or possession noted in military files from which the member was enlisted. It is the state or commonwealth to which the government is obligated to deliver the soldier, his or her family, and their personal belongings upon termination of military service.

Although it may coincide with legal residence at the inception of service, it often differs from the actual legal residence during a person’s military service and lifetime.

Steven Chucala is chief of client services in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate at Fort Belvoir, Va.

### Residence

A residence is normally that place in which a person physically resides, without taking into consideration his or her true roots or state of citizenship.

For example, soldiers and family members are residents of Korea, Germany, Georgia, California or Alaska simply by being assigned and living there without any formal actions on their part. But military assignments do not change the home of record or legal residence.

### Legal Residence

A legal residence, also known as “domicile,” is the state or commonwealth in which a person is recognized as having “roots” or “citizenship.” It occurs either by circumstance or by choice.

Legal residence by circumstance most often occurs when a person is born and automatically assumes the legal residence of the parents. Similarly, should the parents change their legal residence, the unemancipated child will also incur the same change.

Legal residence by choice occurs when the person becomes emancipated and physically establishes a new residence in a different state.

### How to Change Legal Residence

The most common way to change legal residence is for a person to physically depart the existing legal residence with the intent of giving it up, to actually arrive in the new state and begin living there with the specific



intent of making the new location the legal residence.

You can only be a legal resident of one state at a time.

Mere visits, vacations, duty assignments to a new location or the purchase of real estate does not satisfy the concept of permanency. A person may own real estate in several states or territories, but his or her legal residence will not change just because real estate taxes are paid on property.

## Female Spouse Options

A female spouse has the option of adopting her husband's legal residence upon marriage, without ever living there, or she may continue her own or establish a new legal residence as noted above.

## Proof of Change

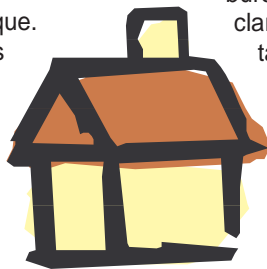
The traditional "corroboration" of a person's intention to establish a new legal residence (LR) is by a combination of such overt acts as:

- ☀ Declaring intention to change and establish a new LR;
- ☀ Departing the old LR, arriving at the new LR and taking residence as a member of the area;
- ☀ Sending notification to the finance office to change Leave and Earnings Statement items concerning monthly income that is reported to the state.
- ☀ Filing income tax returns at the new LR as a resident;
- ☀ Giving up in-state tuition status at the old LR;
- ☀ Terminating auto registration and operator licenses from the old LR and obtaining new ones at the new LR;
- ☀ Changing LR on liability insurance policies covering automobiles and other property;
- ☀ Registering to vote at the new LR (taking an oath of residency);
- ☀ Transferring professional licenses to the new LR;
- ☀ Purchasing or leasing a dwelling at the new LR;
- ☀ Transferring savings, checking or credit accounts to the new LR

## Impacts

The change of legal residence is not unique. But it should be based upon valid conditions and individual considerations of present and future legal and economic impacts.

The decision to change a legal residence should not be an expediency measure to comply with a single issue, such as the registration of a motor vehicle or to attempt to avoid a given tax.



Legal residence has many implications that include but are not limited to inheritance, common law property rights, voting, in-state tuition rates, divorce, adoption, right to sue in particular courts, professional licensing eligibility, personal property and income taxation, and much more.

Even the preparation of a last will and testament will be based upon the specific laws of the state you tell the attorney is your legal residence. Incorrect legal residences normally result in legal documents that may not satisfy the laws of another jurisdiction, especially in such states or territories as Virginia, New York, California, Florida, Washington, Louisiana or Puerto Rico.

## Give Notice

Should you change your legal residence, be certain to notify everyone who needs to know.

For example, do not avoid telling the old tax authorities of the change, and expect them to want some proof of the change, such as a copy of your new income-tax return.

Stop employer withholdings for the old state of legal residence and begin withholdings for the new one, if needed. Stop voting by absentee ballot or in person at the old legal residence.

Do not ignore notices for renewal of registrations, voting, jury duty, taxes, etc. Always respond with a polite notice requesting that your name be removed from their roles and keep copies of these notices.

## End Confusion

Don't let "home of record" confuse you anymore. Simply remember that it's most important to you when you terminate your service in the military, when you and your family are authorized a final move, at government expense, from your present duty station to the home of record or any point between that is a shorter distance.

In the meantime, expect to be bombarded with opinions from various quarters, including superiors, who have for years maintained that "home of record" is the same as "legal residence."

At other times, clerks at local motor vehicle bureaus and other agencies may incorrectly declare military members to be subject to local taxes, fees and registrations, so it is again important to understand the exemptions you are entitled to because of your home of record.

If in doubt as to what your legal residence is or whether you are subject to these taxes or fees, make an appointment with your legal assistance attorney. □



# “BAND OF BROTHERS”

*The unbreakable bond among soldiers is the subject of a powerful new TV miniseries based on the actual World War II experiences of a group of 101st Airborne Division paratroopers.*



# BROTHERS"



"We hope to enlighten  
those who are unappreciative  
of the human cost of preserv-  
ing our great freedoms."

— *Tom Hanks*



The miniseries follows the soldiers of “Easy” Company (*above and below*) from D-Day until the end of the war.

# “BAND OF BROTHERS”

Story by Arthur McQueen

Photos by David James/HBO

**W**ILLIAM Shakespeare summed up the experiences of comrades in battle in “Henry V,” Act IV, Scene III: *From this day to the ending of the world, But we in it shall be remembered, We few, we happy few, we band of brothers; For he today that sheds his blood with me, Shall be my brother; be he ne’er so vile.*

That unbreakable bond is a focus of a 10-part miniseries called “Band of Brothers” that will premiere Sept. 9 on HBO. It’s based upon the wartime experiences of “Easy” Company, part of the 101st Airborne Division’s 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment, as documented in the book of the same

name by Stephen Ambrose.

Executive producers Steven Spielberg and Tom Hanks, who were at Utah Beach in France for the filming of some of the segments of the series, got some firsthand accounts of Easy Co.’s World War II experiences from unit veterans who were flown to the site.

“We hope to enlighten those who



Arthur McQueen is a public affairs officer for U.S. Army, Europe, in Heidelberg, Germany.





Arthur McQueen

**Retired MAJ Richard Winters, one of 47 Easy Co. veterans who visited Normandy in June, still remembers the sights and sounds of D-Day.**



Arthur McQueen

**Former 1LT Lynn Compton shared his memories of Easy Co. with cast members at the June gathering.**

are unappreciative of the human cost of preserving our great freedoms," said Hanks. "Deep down, [World War II] is a tragedy that affected thousands and thousands of people."

"I was mesmerized by the whole story," Ambrose said of his impetus for writing the book. The company traveled from the United States through England, Normandy, Holland, Belgium and to Hitler's hideaway, the "Eagle's Nest," high atop the Bavarian Alps in Berchtesgaden, Germany, and occupation in Austria.

"I don't know if we're entitled to all this attention," said former 1LT Lynn Compton, one of 47 Easy Co. veterans who visited Utah Beach in June to pay respects to fallen "brothers" and get a sneak preview of the miniseries. "There were other guys who did more than we did."

"We hope none of the other veterans watch the series and think, 'Look at that bunch of hotshots.' We didn't win the war. We only did our part," said veteran Darrell Powers.

Easy Co. was part of the newly formed 2nd Battalion, 506th PIR, in July 1942. It joined the 101st Abn. Div. on June 10, 1943. The all-volunteer outfit, then a new concept for the Army, lured some to join by offering enlisted soldiers \$50 jump pay and officers \$100.

**The filmmakers went to great lengths to ensure the authenticity of actors' costumes and equipment (right) as well as the realism of the combat scenes (below).**





Cast member Damian Lewis — one of several largely unknown actors chosen to play Easy Co. soldiers — reacts to “fire.”

“As a first lieutenant during the Depression, I was making \$21 a month,” said retired MAJ Richard Winters. “You can imagine the lure of being paid \$100 a month.”

Training wasn’t easy. Of an original 500 officers and 5,300 enlisted soldiers, 148 and 1,800 graduated from training, respectively, Winters said.

In 1942, spurred by stories that a Japanese unit had set a record by marching 100 miles in 72 hours, the regimental commander directed 2nd Bn. to march 118 miles from Fort Benning to Atlanta, Ga., in December. Despite freezing temperatures and backwoods roads, the soldiers completed the march in 75 hours, with only 12 of the unit’s 586 men falling out.

The unit completed its training in Aldbourne, England, in March 1944, as plans for Operation Overlord — the Allied invasion of western Europe — were being finalized. The unit moved to the town of Uppottery, where it stayed until the jump into France in the early morning hours of D-Day.

“Many of us shared the same-type thoughts about life and death,” Winters said. “Among the questions we asked

## “BAND OF BROTHERS”

*“To see the beach jammed with ships, and an American flag flying, brought tears to my eyes.”*



**Executive producers Steven Spielberg and Tom Hanks feel their production accurately portrays the experiences of Easy Co. soldiers.**



ourselves was: ‘Will I be here next spring to see flowers again?’”

The jump into Normandy marked the unit’s first use of a new piece of equipment, the leg bag, which was to be lowered to the ground before landing. Many men put their weapons and extra ammunition in the bags. Because the drop aircraft were flying so fast, the bags disengaged and were lost in the darkness over France. Winters said he learned only recently that the bags were defective, lacking rivets to hold them together.

Complicating matters further, the C-47 carrying Easy Co.’s pathfinders had been shot down earlier over the channel. Without the pathfinders’ guidance, the company’s members were spread over 20 kilometers.

The unit’s first task was to silence a battery of German artillery that was



threatening the landing at Utah Beach. Winters led six men to destroy four 105mm guns, killing 20 or more German soldiers and sending the remaining 40 off in hasty retreat, he said.

The 506th was the first unit to return to England, on July 13, to recuperate and prepare for the next jump. Upon entering the barracks at Aldbourne, they found the building half empty.

The rapid Allied advance through France led to a frustrating cycle of training and cancelled missions for the 506th, Winters said, until Operation Market Garden, in September 1944, when the unit was placed under British command for the jump into Holland.

During the ensuing battle, German resistance was heavy. And, while the proximity to German supply lines made daylight movement difficult, it often justified daylight artillery barrages, Winters said.

After that operation, the unit recovered in Mourmelon, France, until the Ardennes offensive that pitted the Allies against 25 enemy divisions — the famed “Battle of the Bulge.”

The 101st Abn. Div. was sent to relieve the defenders of encircled Bastogne and then continued fighting through Alsace. Easy Co. was the first unit to reach Hitler’s mountain top “Eagle’s Nest” in Bavaria, en route passing long columns of weary German soldiers looking for someone to surrender to.

The company celebrated the end of World War II by drinking Hitler’s stash of champagne.

Today, Winters, like many other veterans of the war, reflects upon its various aspects. But what he will never forget, he said, is the feeling he had when he returned to Utah Beach 30 days after D-Day.

“To see the beach jammed with ships, and an American flag flying, brought tears to my eyes,” Winters said. He still gets teary eyed when he attends a football game and the American flag is raised before the crowd. “I say to myself, ‘Maybe you wouldn’t be here if we all hadn’t done our jobs on D-Day.’” □

*“Like a lot of the guys, I feel a definite responsibility to get it right, to honor these men.”*

## Helping Actors Play Soldiers

ACTORS don’t always have the luxury of being able to obtain advice from the real-life personalities they portray on screen.

Actor Frank Hughes, who plays SSG Bill Guarnere in “Band of Brothers,” was lucky.

“These are big shoes to fill,” said Hughes, who discussed with Guarnere everything from basic soldiering skills to how to act in combat. “During production, we talked about the script and how things might have been said by someone from Philadelphia, where Bill’s from.”

Actors playing the parts of soldiers who died in battle include David Schwimmer, who portrays CPT Herbert Sobel, “Easy” Company’s first commander. “Like a lot of the guys, I feel a definite responsibility to get it right, to honor these men,” Schwimmer said.

While many of Sobel’s men disliked him for his methods and manner, veterans of the unit credit him for honing their combat skills, said retired MAJ Richard Winters, a first lieutenant during the D-Day landings.

“He was a very conscientious man. To train soldiers for combat you have to be tough and strict to some extent, and you have to be a leader,” Winters said. “Sometimes you even have to be unreasonable.”

“I hope this does justice to the men who served in the unit,” said HBO special events director Michael McMorrow, who was largely responsible for getting veterans to Utah Beach in partnership with American Airlines. The airline flew veterans and their families to Paris, then chartered trains and buses to take them to Utah Beach.

“There was no more appropriate place to honor the heroism of the men of the 101st than by premiering their story at Utah Beach,” said HBO chief executive officer Jeffrey Bewkes. — Arthur McQueen



Arthur McQueen



**Easy Co. veterans (seen above honoring the American flag during the Normandy ceremony) were in many cases able to add further realism to the series by advising the actors playing them (left) on the finer points of soldiering.**



**Lunden: Army honoree.**

*The award recognizes Lunden for her work as executive producer of the series "Behind Closed Doors with Joan Lunden."*

**T**ELEVISION personality **Joan Lunden** has received the Army's top civilian award, the Decoration for Distinguished Civilian Service, for her in-depth coverage of the Army.

Following the Pentagon awards ceremony, Lunden reviewed the troops in a Twilight Tattoo ceremony performed by soldiers of the 3rd U.S. Infantry, The Old Guard, of the Military District of Washington.

The award recognizes Lunden for her work as executive producer of the television series "Behind Closed Doors with Joan Lunden."

"We can't tell you how much we appreciate what you've done for us, because it invites the American public to see what it's like to be a soldier," said Director of the Army Staff LTG John M. Pickler. "More than that, I think you've given the American public a sense of appreciation for the selfless service and sacrifice that's a part of our culture."

For her series "Behind Closed Doors" Lunden has fired the main gun of an M1A1 Abrams tank at Fort Knox, Ky., jumped in formation with the Army's Golden Knights parachute demonstration team, and participated in war games with the 82nd Airborne Division and trained with special forces soldiers, both at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Lunden said she wanted to participate in the training so that viewers could see and experience what it's like to be in the Army. "I wanted people to be able to experience that slice of life through me," she said.

Soldiers' sense of camaraderie and family and

mutual respect for one another are what make the Army such a great force, Lunden said. She also praised the Army's training programs.

The small sampling of training she underwent, she said, "challenged me physically and emotionally. They really tested my mettle and made me a stronger and better person. For that I am truly grateful."

"Behind Closed Doors with Joan Lunden" appears on the A&E television network. — *Army News Service*

**A**CULINARY team from the 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, in Savannah, Ga., took top honors in a recent culinary competition that included military chefs from the United States and Great Britain.

**SSGs Mark A. Morgan and Christopher J. Cahall** won Best Entrée and Best Overall, earning praise from some of New York City's finest chefs.

"You've got the key ingredient to cooking: you love it, and it shows in your work," said Franklin Becker, executive chef at "Local," a premier Manhattan theater district café.

The competition's 15 judges included chefs from nine of New York City's best restaurants. Also judging were flag officers from the Navy and Marine Corps.

Four trophies were up for grabs, including Best Appetizer, Best Entrée, Best Dessert and Best Overall.

The meal that won the ranger team the coveted Best Overall award included an appetizer of salmon ravioli atop a julienne of fennel, turnip and peppers. The winning entrée was chicken breast stuffed with shallots and leeks, and a creamy white chocolate bread pudding for dessert.

"I've always gone into competitions thinking I could win," said Morgan. Rated as an executive chef, Morgan also won gold at the 26th Annual U.S. Army Culinary Arts Competition at Fort Lee, Va., in March. And he was on the gold-winning team last October at the Olympiade der Koch, the world's oldest and most prestigious cooking competition, held in Germany.

Cahall and Morgan left the competition with more than a trophy for top honors. Both soldiers were treated to dinner at two of New York's finest restaurants. — *CPT Margaret Heatherman, USA-SOC Public Affairs*

**Morgan and Cahall: Culinary winners.**





**A**RM Y Chief of Staff GEN Eric K. Shinseki recently awarded 24 junior officers the GEN Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award for making a difference in the lives of their soldiers.

At the 14th annual awards ceremony at the Pentagon, Shinseki said: "We recognize outstanding leaders today because your influence on soldiers is so strong and so lasting. Imprints of great leadership are repeated in a thousand ways in a thousand units as those lessons are emulated."

The award recognizes company-grade active-duty, National Guard and Reserve officers who demonstrate the Army's values. Criteria for the award include the ability to motivate others, understand fellow soldiers, and inspire commitment, teamwork and esprit de corps.

**CW2 Nicholas Punimata**, a special forces operational detachment commander at Fort Lewis, Wash., was the first warrant officer to receive the award.

Other recipients included **CPT Kevin Berkman** of the Georgia National Guard; **CPT William Coppernoll** from Fort Knox, Ky.; **CPT Gregory Durkac** of the Michigan Guard; **CPT William Edwards** of the Oregon Guard; **CPT Patrick Ellis** from the Southern European Task Force in Vicenza, Italy.

Also winning were **1LT Randall Fisher** of the 3397th Garrison Support Unit in Chattanooga, Tenn.; **CPT Cheley Gabriel** of the West Virginia Guard; **CPT Lance Green** from Fort Myer, Va.; **CPT Willie Greene** from Fort Hood, Texas; **CPT Yi Gwon** from U.S. Army, Korea; **CPT Charles Hansell** from U.S. Army, Europe; **CPT Robert Intress** of the Minnesota Guard; **CPT Christopher Krug** of the Iowa Guard; **CPT David Lyles** of the 407th Civil Affairs Battalion in Arden Hills, Mich.; **CPT Hugh McLarnon** from Fort Drum, N.Y.; **2LT Michael Morford** of the 8th Quartermaster Brigade in New Orleans, La.; **CPT Robert Purtle** of the Germany-

based 72nd Signal Battalion; **CPT Lisa Saulsbery** and **CPT Richard Thompson** from Fort Benning, Ga.; **CPT Randall Thrash** from Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; **CPT Christopher West** of the 467th Engineer Bn. in Memphis, Tenn.; **1LT Aaron Wilkes** of the 394th Adjutant General Company in Long Beach, Calif.; and **CPT Calvin Wineland** from Fort Lewis. — ARNEWS



**Greene: Educator.**

**S**FC Kevin Douglass Greene, a recruiter at the Milwaukie, Ore., recruiting station, may have inherited his strong interest in education from his great-great grandfather, Frederick Douglass, Greene said.

Born in 1817 into slavery near Easton, Md., Douglass began educating himself at the age of eight. He was freed from slavery and went on to become a leading spokesman for black Americans. He was a great orator, writer, publisher and educator. During the Civil War, he was a recruiter for the Union Army, Greene said.

Long before volunteering for recruiting duty more than a year ago, Greene combined his interest in education with the knowledge he gleaned from researching his family tree to teach African-American heritage to kindergartners and middle and high school students in the Portland area.

"I ask the students if they know about Frederick Douglass and then I summarize the outstanding achievements in his life," said Greene. Those achievements include three autobiographies; Greene owns a first edition of one of them. The book is presently on display in the Frederick Douglass Summer Home Museum in Highland Beach, Md.

During his visual presentation, "The Douglass Tree," Greene tells students about the challenges that Douglass faced and asks them about challenges they face.

"I try to wear two hats," Greene said. "I enjoy telling young people about the value of the military as well as the value of education."

Greene has taken his presentation to 16 schools and three universities.

He's also addressed groups in the Washington, D.C., area at the Library of Congress, the Children's National Medical Center and the Frederick Douglass Honors Society at Howard University. — Pearl Ingram, U.S. Army Recruiting Command PAO

*Greene combined his interest in education with the knowledge gleaned from re-searching his family tree to teach African-American heritage.*



SPC Nicole Sarkisian



**Pvt. Shane Brown of the 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, uses a rope to climb over an obstacle during the joint U.S.-Australian training exercise Tandem Thrust '01.**

## Rockhampton, Australia

### U.S., Australian Forces Train Down Under

ARMY units from throughout the Pacific region deployed in support of Tandem Thrust '01, a Joint Chiefs of Staff and U.S. Pacific Command-sponsored training exercise conducted in Australia's Shoalwater Bay Training Area in May.

First conducted on the southern coast of California in 1992, Tandem Thrust has evolved into a complex combined-joint exercise conducted once every two years, incorporating air, sea and land elements of the U.S. and Australian militaries.

The 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry Regiment, from Fort Richardson, Alaska, was the

largest U.S. Army player in this year's exercise. The unit worked with Australia's 3rd Bn., Royal Australian Regiment, in the week prior to the formal field training exercise.

MAJ Bryan Hilferty, spokesman for U.S. Army, Alaska, said USARAK's participation "demonstrated our ability to rapidly deploy our airborne battalion as part of joint-combined operations in a small-scale contingency. Our goal was to improve readiness and interoperability, and to increase security within the Asia-Pacific region."

MAJ Mark Meadows, 1st Bn., 501st operations officer, said this year's training was an important opportunity for his paratroopers to learn from their Australian counterparts.

"The training allowed us to

practice in our area of operations and interact with other airborne units, and it provided us a great opportunity to execute a combined airborne operation," Meadows said.

The Alaska unit flew from Hawaii on May 4 and conducted a combat jump into Australia's Singleton drop zone on May 5. The American paratroopers then spent a week preparing for the FTX and training with the Australians.

"It's a lot of fun jumping into a foreign country," said SPC Jose Sandoval of the initial jump on May 5. "There's nothing like it."

The highlight of the first week's training was the combined squad competition, which consisted of U.S. and Australian teams traversing a 1.5 mile, densely forested course filled with water impediments and man-made barriers.

"The opportunity to go through an obstacle course that is not available to us back at Fort Richardson was real challenging," said SPC Charles Raby, a 60mm mortarman. "I

got the chance to help a teammate I normally wouldn't have had in my team."

Raby said the toughest obstacle, and most satisfying part, was helping an "injured" teammate scale a 14-foot wall.

"Their obstacle course requires an enormous amount of upper-body strength," said SPC Matthew Stuver. "The Aussies are in great shape. They knew what they were doing out there, and it motivated us the whole time."

Following the course, the soldiers conducted a 4-mile march and ended the day with a squad live-fire range competition.

The challenge of operating in the harsh yet often delicate Australian environment was of concern to this year's exercise planners. Safety concerns and ensuring protection of the environment had to be balanced with training objectives, and so were part of the planning sessions from the beginning, said the Royal Australian Navy's Lt. Cmdr. David Waldie.

"Special safety working

SPC Nicole Sarkisian



**Soldiers from the Fort Richardson, Alaska-based 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry Regiment, use teamwork to get through another of the obstacles on the densely forested course.**

groups made concerted efforts to ensure everyone was thoroughly trained and briefed on safety and environmental considerations before the exercise began," he said.

This is the third time Tandem Thrust has been held in this form as a combined task-force exercise in Australia. Participants in TT '01 included 15,000 U.S. Navy, Army, Air Force and Marine personnel, and 12,000 members of the Australian defense forces.

The combined forces were divided into "Blue" forces, composed of U.S. and Australian units, and an opposing "Orange" force, which included U.S., Australian and Canadian elements.

The realism provided had real-world implications, Sandoval said.

"One day we might have to jump and fight together for real, so it's important to know each others' standards," he said. — *Tandem Thrust 2001 Combined Joint Information Bureau*



SPC Nicole Sarkisian

**A mixed U.S.-Australian squad negotiates the third of 20 obstacles at Australia's Holsworthy Barracks. Some 12,000 members of the Australian defense forces participated in Tandem Thrust '01.**

## Kaiserslautern, Germany

### JAG Competition Showcases Soldier Skills

FORGET all the lawyer jokes you've heard. The 21st Theater Support Command's Office of the Staff Judge Advocate's "Iron JAG" competition demon-

strated that Army attorneys and paralegals have the right stuff to bring to the battlefield — soldier-style.

Iron JAG is a grueling set of events, including a 400-meter relay swim, a field march with full combat load, a modified PT test, an operational law exam, a cross-country run, and tests

on common-task training and JAG mission-essential tasks.

The organizer of this year's Iron JAG, SGM Mike Broady, used his experience from a previous assignment with a ranger regiment to create a competition to reinforce the standard CTT, JAG METL and physical training that is conducted at unit level.

The 11-hour competition tested attorneys and enlisted paralegals on all facets of their missions, promoting the JAG team concept and validating and evaluating JAG training.

"The competitors happen to be lawyers, legal NCOs and legal specialists, but they're always soldiers first and they have to maintain those soldier skills," said MG John D. Altenburg, the assistant judge advocate general. "That's why we want to push this so hard."

NCOs at individual law centers throughout U.S. Army, Europe, independently trained their soldiers in annual CTT tasks and specific JAG METL tasks, then team members trained each other. Enlisted soldiers trained their officer partners in CTT, and the attorneys trained their paralegals in battlefield law to prepare for the difficult operational law test.

"The operational law test is unique," said Broady. "It's based on rules of engagement, the laws of land warfare, the Hague and Geneva conventions, collateral claims damage and other issues that JAG teams could encounter on the battlefield."

The competition was so fierce that a winning team did not emerge until the last event. The first place trophy was captured by the 1st Infantry Division's team number 4, CPT Joseph Ratermann and PFC Michael Rea. Second place went to CPT John Hyatt and SGT Stephen Newsome, also of the 1st Inf. Div. The 21st TSC team of CPT Robert Borcharding and SSG Geriberto Dragon placed third. — LTC Deana Willis



LTC Deana Willis

**SFC Diane James grades SPC Jennifer Roper's abdominal crunches during the 21st Theater Support Command's "Iron Jag" competition.**



# NTC

## Turns 20

Story by SPC Kim Dooley

**T**HE National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., which celebrated its 20th anniversary in July, was created to provide enhanced realism for training and a better system of evaluating combat readiness.

“A commander can train on tasks here that he can’t at home station. He can get the kind of feedback that will really help his unit to learn and grow,” said BG James D. Thurman, Fort Irwin and NTC commander.

“For 20 years the NTC has been the place a commander can point to and say: ‘The rotation to the NTC was the training highlight of my battalion command tour.’ I’m proud of that.”

Thurman speaks from experience. Deployed to the NTC three times before taking command here — twice as a brigade commander — Thurman recalled: “In both instances as the commander, I was able to maneuver and train my unit as I would in war. That kind of experience is priceless.”

And that “priceless” training followed him and countless other soldiers into Operation Desert Storm.

While the need for preparedness

has been NTC’s reason for being, it’s the soldiers and civilians assigned to Fort Irwin who have made the NTC mission a success.

The components of the NTC are the Operations Group, the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, and the infrastructure and instrumentation of Fort Irwin.

“Operations Group provides the Army feedback mechanisms,” said NTC CSM Steven A. Mohror. “They tell us how our units are performing their missions. This helps the leader to determine what they need to do to improve combat readiness.”

The key components of Operations Group are the observer-controller teams that provide after-action reviews, Mohror said.

Meanwhile, the 11th ACR is the realistic and uncooperative opposing force that challenges each unit that steps onto its “home turf.”

NTC training creates a realistic environment — MILES-equipped soldiers face the possibility of “death”; troops do without food, ammunition and supplies until they can acquire support; small errors lead to defeat.

The post’s infrastructure and instrumentation allow different

SPC Kim Dooley is editor of Fort Irwin’s Tiefert Telegraph.



agencies around post to track the training units during “battle.” That data proves a unit’s strengths and weaknesses and helps commanders assess their units and themselves.

Some of the NTC’s near-term transformation plans involve setting up urban-operation sites and attempting to secure a rail spur for the installation.

Urban-operation sites will further integrate what Mohr describes as “urban flavor” to the battlefield, where soldiers are forced to interact with civilians and in settings where civilians will be affected by their actions.

Rail spurs would make it more convenient for training units to transport their own equipment to the NTC and would ease the heavy traffic on the main road into post.

“Our mission will always be the same: to train the force,” Thurman said. “I like to think we are making a contribution to the Army and to the nation. As the Army transforms, so will the NTC.” □



**The soldiers of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment provide a first-class opposing force for rotational units that visit the NTC to hone their combat skills.**



# Welcome to NTC

Story by SGT A.J. Coyne

**S**OLDIERS who ventured to the National Training Center during its early years might not recognize the sprawling desert outpost today.

While the installation has steadily grown over the past 20 years to its current size of 1,200 square miles, the influx of soldiers and family members has meant constant facility upgrades and improvements.

With more than 2,100 housing units on post, many soldiers stationed at Fort Irwin can live on-post, close to both their families and their jobs. For those families, on-post housing eliminates the need for a daily 30-mile drive from Barstow, Calif., to Fort Irwin.

The road itself is getting a makeover as well. The two-lane hardtop that stretches across the rolling desert landscape sup-

SGT A.J. Coyne works for the 13th Public Affairs Detachment.



**Soldiers training at the NTC are subjected to a variety of challenges, including having to wear full combat gear — plus MILES — in the California heat.**

ports more than 5,000 vehicles per day. A \$12 million project to widen the road was scheduled to begin last month.

On any given day, Fort Irwin's population, including soldiers, family members, civilian employees and rotational soldiers, hovers between 16,000 and 17,000 people, creating the need for a self-sustaining community.

Lewis Elementary School and Fort Irwin

Middle School employ 80 teachers who educate nearly 1,400 children, and the post has a new child-development center.

"The Landmark Inn" recently opened on post, and its 180 rooms are frequently filled.

But the area most soldiers know best is referred to as the "Dust Bowl." In the past, the Rotational Unit Bivouac Area was an open, desert-covered community where high winds kicked up clouds of sand and dust on a daily basis.

The "Dust Bowl" is still home to rotational soldiers, but improvements to the area have added pavement, buildings, concession facilities and phone centers.

Still not an ideal place to live — dust storms occur regularly, eliminating visibility and covering soldiers with fine sand — the RUBA provides a challenging training environment for thousands of soldiers each year. □



**Troops of the NTC's opposing force keep a close watch on visiting units throughout their training rotations.**

## About Those Rocks...

**W**HEN soldiers travel to the National Training Center, they know they've almost reached their destination when they spot "Painted Rocks."

A collection of more than 100 rocks of various shapes and sizes, "Painted Rocks" provides visitors and newcomers a look back in time at the various units that have trained at Fort Irwin and NTC.

The rocks, adorned with the crests, slogans and logos of units from throughout the Army, first began appearing in the early 1960s, said Neil Morrison, curator of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment Museum.

The original group of rocks included about 100 paintings and has grown steadily ever since. The increasing number of paintings has led to a shortage of rocks, and units must now contact Fort Irwin Range Control to get permission to move a new rock to the Painted Rocks location. Range Control personnel say about four new rocks are added each rotation.

There was no policy to protect the rocks until 1996, so some of the older, original paintings were painted over by new units looking to leave their mark in the desert.

But now that the painting and placing of rocks are regulated, visitors to NTC can be sure their contribution to NTC history will last as long as the wind and sand allow. — SGT A.J. Coyne



# Around the Services

Compiled by *Gil High* from service reports



## Navy

Sailors from USS *Thorn* used bolt cutters and knives to free the only surviving sea turtle in a group of four found tangled in some discarded netting. *Thorn* was in the Mediterranean Sea, headed in the general direction of the tangled turtles, when a helicopter deployed with the ship spotted them from the air and called for a rescue team.



## Coast Guard

The USCGC *Sherman* returned to Alameda, Calif., July 13, completing a six-month deployment in the Arabian Gulf with two Navy destroyers. *Sherman* performed maritime law-enforcement duties in the region and helped enforce United Nations' sanctions against Iraq. Other missions included the rescue of a stricken merchant vessel off the coast of eastern South Africa.



## Department of Defense

The final product of the Quadrennial Defense Review is due to Congress Sept. 30. The QDR is DOD's vehicle to transform the American military. Defense leaders use QDR information to shape budgets and address long-term strategy, force structure and resource management. The Military Force Structure Act of 1996 ordered the first QDR, and the fiscal year 2000 National Defense Authorization Act made the requirement permanent. The next QDR will be conducted in 2005.



## Air Force

An American flag which had flown over the grave of Air Force Lt. George E.M. Kelly, the first military pilot killed in a crash of a military aircraft, was lowered for the final time here during the July 13 closure ceremony for Kelly Air Force Base, Texas. The base will now be known as Kelly USA, a global business and industrial center.



# The Army's *Most Famous* Doctor

Story by  
COL John R. Pierce (Ret.)



The young Dr. Walter Reed (above) joined the Army Medical Corps looking for stability. What he got was a career of adventure and remarkable achievement, which included research into illness among soldiers in Cuban tent camps (below).

BORN in a remote area of the middle peninsula of Virginia 150 years ago this month, Walter Reed was the son of a Methodist minister, with an early education that was typical for his times.

The Civil War that began when he was 9 years old called two of his brothers to the service of the Confederacy. After the war, he was allowed to enroll with his brothers at the University of Virginia, but following a year of study he realized that his father could not support all three boys for the full course of their studies.

Reed approached the medical faculty and proposed that if he could pass all the necessary exams, they should award him a medical degree.

Over the course of the next

year, he demonstrated an unusual capacity for hard work and application. When he passed the exams before his 18th birthday, Walter Reed became the youngest person ever to be granted a medical degree from the University of Virginia.

In the 1800s, the medical education system in this country was not nearly as structured as today. Reed, who could have gone into practice, knew he needed more experience and training. He went to New York City to continue his studies and earn a second M.D. degree from Bellevue Hospital.

He worked in New York City for several years, but after falling in love with a girl in North Carolina where his father was preaching, he looked to the Army Medical Corps for stability and guaranteed income. What he got was a career of adventure, excitement and remarkable achievement.

After a brief initial assignment in the East, the 24-year-old Reed was assigned to the Western frontier. Like

COL John R. Pierce is director of the Patient Safety Program at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.





military families today, the soldier reported to his assignment alone; his wife would join him later.

In the fall of 1876, just seven years after the completion of the transcontinental railroad, 20-year-old Emilie Reed rode the train alone across country. After meeting in San Francisco, the Reeds traveled by ship to San Diego and endured a 23-day buckboard ride over 500 trackless miles to Fort Lowell, Ariz.

Reed was the only doctor for miles around and cared for soldiers, family members, civilians and Indians. Over the next 18 years the Reeds moved about 15 times, from one frontier to the next, interspersed with assignments back East.

A modern goal of medical education is to instill in each new doctor the desire and thrust for continued learning and acquisition of new skills. More than a century before the term was coined and widely used, Walter Reed became a model for life-long learning, and his achievements set a benchmark for his and future generations. Despite what one of his biographers felt was more than ample opportunity to

stagnate during early isolated assignments, Reed's curiosity kept him focused on new challenges and intellectual growth.

He made contacts with the local medical community, when there was one, and sought out new educational opportunities. During an assignment at Fort McHenry in Baltimore, Md., he took classes at Johns Hopkins Univer-



**Walter Reed was born 150 years ago this month in this house in Gloucester County, Va. He went on to receive medical degrees from the University of Virginia and New York's Bellevue Hospital.**



# Walter Reed Army

sity, becoming familiar with the new science of bacteriology.

After additional tours in the West and South, he returned to the East Coast in 1890 and again took courses at Johns Hopkins. In 1893 he was assigned to the faculty of the new Army Medical School and, at 41, was promoted to major.

After the brief Spanish-American War in 1898, Reed was chosen to head an investigation into the reasons why more soldiers had died from diseases, mostly typhoid, than had died on the battlefield. After a year of travel and study, the U.S. Army Typhoid Board made observations and recommendations that greatly improved the health of the Army.

Following the Spanish surrender, plans called for the Army to occupy Cuba for four years. Yellow fever had been a morbid visitor to the Caribbean and coastal United States for many years and threatened nonimmune members of the Army.

Debate had raged



**With the aid of American and Cuban physicians, and of soldiers who volunteered to be test subjects, Reed's Yellow Fever Board proved that mosquitos transmitted the deadly disease.**

throughout the medical community over the cause of yellow fever and the ways in which it was spread.

Havana was Cuba's largest city and was the seat of the occupying forces, but it was a cesspool of disease. Despite the dramatic success of the Army's sanitarians in cleaning up Havana with reduction of many diseases, yellow fever remained unconquered and deadly.

In May 1900 Army Surgeon General George Miller Sternberg appointed Reed to head a board of three contract physicians to study infectious diseases in Cuba with special attention to yellow fever.

Reed and Dr. James Carroll met the other members, Drs. Aristides Agramonte and Jesse Lazear, at Columbia Barracks, Cuba, in late June of 1900.

What followed over the next 16 months was arguably the most extraordinary clinical research ever conducted by the Army Medical Department.

With the assistance of Cuban and American medical personnel, and with support from the Army's leaders, the Yellow Fever Board proved that the *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito transmitted yellow fever among humans. Their research also revealed that yellow



**In May 1909 Reed's name was memorialized when the Army opened Walter Reed General Hospital — now Walter Reed Army Medical Center — in north-west Washington, D.C.**



fever was caused by an ultramicroscopic agent in the blood, the first evidence of viral disease in man.

The board had also been the first research group in history to get the informed consent of their experimental subjects.

Unlike today, when it takes months or even years for the results of new medical research to have an impact on the general population, the discoveries of the Yellow Fever Board had an immediate impact on the Army and the people of Cuba. Orders were issued concerning mosquito control, and were carried out under the supervision of MAJ William C. Gorgas.

Within just a few months yellow fever disappeared from Havana, where it had been in constant residence for at least 150 years. Several years later these same techniques were applied in Panama to help control yellow fever and malaria, and greatly assisted in the completion of the Panama Canal.

Reed did not live long enough to see the complete impact of his work. He died in Washington, D.C., on Nov. 23, 1902, following surgery for appendicitis. His burial in Arlington National Cemetery returned him to the soil of his native Virginia. Emilie survived him by 48 years and was buried beside him when she died in 1950.

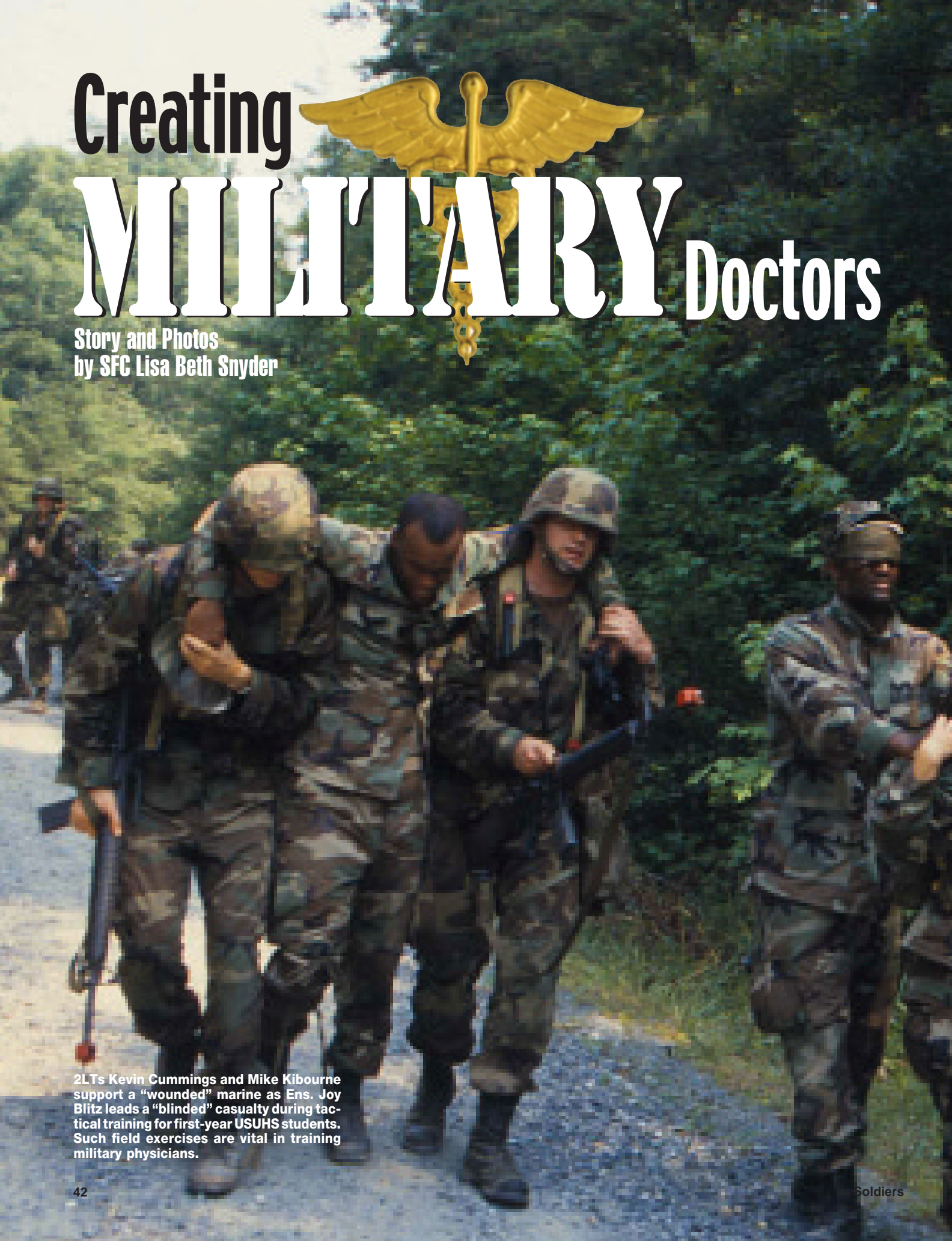
In May 1909, Reed's name was memorialized when the Army named its new hospital in northwest Washington, D.C., Walter Reed General Hospital.

In 1951, on the 100th anniversary of Reed's birth, the hospital was renamed Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Today it remains one of the most recognized medical institutions in the world, a monument to an Army doctor who dedicated his life to learning so that he could help others. □



# Creating MILITARY Doctors

Story and Photos  
by SFC Lisa Beth Snyder



2LTs Kevin Cummings and Mike Kibourne support a “wounded” marine as Ens. Joy Blitz leads a “blinded” casualty during tactical training for first-year USUHS students. Such field exercises are vital in training military physicians.





The first-year USUHS medical students come under simulated enemy fire during the field training at Quantico Marine Corps Base, Va.

## FOR centuries, doctors have been going to war.

“There is an old tradition of training medical personnel to go to war,” said Dr. Val G. Hemming, dean of the F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences on the grounds of the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md.

“Surgery was really largely born in military medicine,” said Hemming, a retired Air Force physician.

Military medical schools began to appear in the 18th century, he said. By 1900, France, Germany, Great Britain and Russia all had military medical schools.

The Uniformed Service University’s school of medicine opened its doors in 1976 and graduated its first class four years later. Graduates serve as commissioned medical officers in the Army, Air Force, Navy (which also provides medical care for the Marine Corps), Coast Guard and the Public Health Service.

Of the 3,104 physicians who have graduated from the university since 1980, 90 percent are still on active duty. They make up 20 percent of the military’s doctors.

“There is such a thing as military medicine, and military medicine is very different from civilian medicine,” Hemming said.

Hemming said that military medical personnel must practice good medicine in bad places, and in times of war they confront things that they would not normally see.



One of the challenges the medical students face during the urban operations leadership reaction course is trying to get a litter to the top of the “Combatville city hall.”





## How to Apply

Applicants to the School of Medicine must:

- Be citizens of the United States.
- Be at least 18 years old at the time of matriculation, but no more than 30 as of June 30 in the year of admissions for civilians and enlisted personnel, or 36 for active-duty commissioned officers.
- Meet the requirements for holding a commission in the uniformed services.
- Be of sound moral character.
- Be motivated for a medical career in the uniformed services.
- Meet the school's academic, intellectual and personal qualifications.

## Academic Requirements

Military medicine needs individuals with a variety of interests and talents; thus the school welcomes applications from individuals with diverse educational backgrounds.

Intellectual maturity, however, is an important consideration in admissions decisions. Applicants should be well-informed, knowledgeable individuals who have demonstrated competence in scholastic pursuits. They should be adept in organizing, analyzing and synthesizing factual information. Mathematical ability and background in the sciences — natural, physical and social — are expected.

On or before June 15th of the year of their planned matriculation, applicants must have attained a baccalaureate degree from an accredited academic institution in the United States, Canada or Puerto Rico. — *Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences Recruitment Office*

The school emphasizes the five components of military medicine, said Air Force Dr. (Lt. Col.) John M. Wightman, the director of UHHS's clinical science division in the department of military and emergency medicine.

The five areas are preventative and occupational medicine; trauma management and combat medical skills; behavioral medicine, including evaluating combat environments and dealing with combat stress; environmental medicine, such as dealing with heat, cold or extreme altitudes; and infectious diseases and tropical medicine, also known as global medicine.

Each individual component encompasses multiple disciplines, Wightman said.

Two required courses for all of the university's students are Military Contingency Medicine and Military Emergency Medicine. These courses teach students how to treat patients using fewer resources than are available in a hospital, he said.

The school has instruction on how to work in the operational environment, how to understand what the line

units are doing and understanding military organizational structure, Wightman said.

Uniformed Services University students have four weeks of military medicine in addition to field-training exercises and training at the simulation center at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. The students become familiar with military medicine; joint operations; peace, humanitarian and disaster medicine; and officer-enlisted teamwork.

More than half the 165 members of the class of 2001 had a connection with the military before entering the university; some 15 percent of the class members had prior enlisted service.

Wightman said that while there are similarities between military and emergency medicine, military medicine can be practiced in austere environments without all specialties available. Emergency medicine is normally practiced in a hospital.

The Uniformed Services University medical school is one of three nationwide that require students to take the Advanced Trauma Life Support Course and is among the 25 percent of



The training conducted at Quantico (top and above) introduces the USUHS students to the challenges of both combat and military medical operations in urban areas.



schools for which emergency medicine training is a graduation requirement, Wightman said.

The university has required courses in public health and disease prevention, while most students at civilian medical schools get little instruction in preventative medicine, said Hemming, who specializes in pediatrics and infectious diseases.

It is the only school that teaches disaster and humanitarian-assistance medicine in an organized way, Wightman said. This and other required instruction adds about 700 hours to the institution's curriculum, compared with other accredited U.S. medical schools.

This period includes instruction that will help new doctors make the best use of recent advances in the practice of medicine, Hemming said.

Hemming added that one important advantage Uniformed Services University graduates have is an understanding of military culture.

"By the time they graduate, they are part of that system," he said. "How wonderful to have your physician know your job so he can take care of you."



**Tangled ropes and an overturned litter tell the tale of a failed evacuation.**

**Evaluators observe student performance during a MOUT exercise. Military medical operations in such urban settings can be both challenging and hazardous.**



**USUHS students ready a litter in which they will move a "wounded aircrew member" discovered atop a building.**





The occupational medical needs for service members, who could be assigned to submarines or high-performance aircraft, is very different from civilian occupational medical needs, Hemming said.

The medical school's students get much of their clinical training at the National Naval Medical Center next door, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Malcolm Grow Medical Center at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., and Wilford Hall Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas.

In addition to teaching, USUHS faculty members also engage in a variety of research and publish their findings in such professional journals as *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, and they are subject to peer evaluation to maintain accreditation, Hemming said.

Most of the university's research focuses on military medicine, infectious diseases, public health and preventative medicine, he said. □

# Officers & Doctors

**R**ESearch changed 2LT Thomas N. Hoffmann's mind about his choice of medical schools.

When the former special forces medic returned to Fort Campbell, Ky., after his Advanced NCO Course, he told his wife that he would not go to "that Army medical school" even though he planned to practice medicine in the Army.

However, after reviewing data on entrance exams and specialty board exams and talking with the doctors he worked with, Hoffmann made the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences his first choice.

"This school is more selective than any other school in the country," Hoffmann said.

Also, having served in the Army, he liked that the school draws students from around the country and not just its local area.

As a soldier he "didn't want to deal with competitive back stabbing" that he found at other medical schools he applied to, he said.

"Part of the reason we don't compete with each other is that we'll be working with each other for a long time," Hoffmann said. The students are on active duty once they begin the four-year program, and then must serve on active duty for at least seven

years after graduation.

He and two of his first-year classmates find that the school is family friendly, because the family support network and second lieutenant pay and allowances ease much of the stress of going to medical school while supporting a family.

As the wife and the daughter of soldiers, 2LT Amy E. Vertrees decided she wanted to serve her country while being a doctor. The Uniformed Services University allows her to start her service while in medical school.

The applicant interview at the university caused 2LT Andy Kagel to change four years of planning.

The former flight paramedic at the University of Virginia medical center had planned to attend the University of Virginia and then join the military. However, the scope of the Uniformed Services University's program and support network moved the school to the top of his list.

Kagel, who has never been affiliated with the military before, said he picked the Army because it matched the best with his flight medic training.

"If you are going to go into military medicine, it is better to be trained by the military," said 2LT Jordan Hall, a former enlisted soldier.

Kagel said the university graduates officers of the medical corps, not just doctors for the medical corps.

"Graduates will be better prepared to be military physicians, and by every measure I know of they are better physicians than those produced by any other university," Hoffmann said.

"We are trained to treat soldiers the best way that we can," Vertrees said.

Both Kagel and Hall would like to go into emergency medicine, while Hoffmann leans toward family friendly internal medicine and Vertrees is considering obstetrics/gynecological surgery.

"Your heart is in the care," Kagel said. — *SFC Lisa Beth Snyder*

**USUHS student Jesse Rohloff assists in a simulated leg amputation inside a recreated Civil War hospital at Antietam National Battlefield.**





# Promoting Health in the Pacific

Story and Photos by Heike Hasenauer



**I**N his laboratory at Camp Zama, Japan, Iwakami Masahiro keeps company with a large tank of Madagascar roaches, a red-headed centipede, various types of mosquitoes and some Japanese golden spiders.

Masahiro uses some of the bugs — such as cockroaches, of which Japan has an abundance, he said — to test their resistance to new varieties of pesticides that are less harmful to the environment.

In his mosquito-surveillance program, Masahiro traps the insects and checks whether they carry Japanese encephalitis, malaria or dengue fever. He also takes some of the bugs to area schools to introduce children to such dangerous ones as the sparrow wasp, whose sting kills some 30 people each year in Japan.

Masahiro is one of 56 soldiers and civilians working for the Camp Zama-based U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, Pacific, said LTC Thomas Little, CHPPM-PAC's deputy for technical services.

The organization serves the entire Pacific Theater, providing public health services, humanitarian assistance, field preventive medicine and force health protection training before deployments, Little said. It's also responsible for inspecting dining facilities and swimming pools, and conducting industrial hygiene checks, work-site visits and water quality analysis at Army installations in mainland Japan.

CHPPM-PAC's experts also provide veterinary and epidemiology services to indigenous people in such places as Mongolia and China, Little said.

Its soldiers routinely deploy to exercise sites in such places as Siberia and the Philippines to provide field preventive medicine support, he said.

**Water quality tests are just one of the many important tasks carried out by CHPPM-PAC's 56 soldiers and civilians.**

USARPAC photo



**(Left) PFC Fernando Rivas takes a water sample from a field sink. (Below, left) Large Madagascar roaches are among the insects used for testing.**

glasses. He also directed doctors and dentists to some 900 patients in three days.

Recently, CHPPM-PAC established a Special Medical Augmentation Response Team, one of three that currently exist in the Army. The seven-member preventive-medicine team responds to natural or man-made disasters within 14 hours of notification, Little said.

Other CHPPM-PAC teams deploy to remote islands to teach environmental conservation and basic sanitation classes, or to measure levels of contaminants, Little said.

At the Environmental Laboratory Division's Drinking Water Laboratory technicians study water samples to analyze levels of 28 substances — including phosphorous, chlorine, copper and lead — to ensure they don't exceed EPA standards, said MAJ James St. Angelo, chief of CHPPM-PAC's Environmental Health Engineering Division.

When someone in Korea dropped formaldehyde into a sanitation system, CHPPM-PAC assisted Eighth U.S. Army personnel in cleaning it up, Little said.

And when terrorist cult members in Japan released a chemical substance on the Tokyo subway several years ago, Japanese officials sought out CHPPM-PAC's commander for guidance. The same was true when workmen who were building a hazardous-materiel storage facility on Okinawa discovered a container of a chemical agent dating from the Vietnam War, Little said.

CPT Carlos Corredor, program manager of the Health Physics-Nuclear-Biological-Chemical Laboratory, works to protect soldiers from radiation. Among his missions is monitoring the emissions from X-ray machines to ensure they comply with safety standards.

Corredor said his laboratory would be the one to respond to a crisis such as an nuclear fuel spill from a ura-

nium-processing plant. He and others in his lab, therefore, teach soldiers how to care for NBC casualties.

In the Industrial Hygiene Program, team members certify that test equipment is safe and that organizations are following safety procedures.

With more than 60 percent of its support going to units in Korea and Hawaii, CHPPM-PAC plays a critical role in safeguarding the health of America's primary fighting forces in the Pacific Theater.

Keeping them well is tantamount to keeping them ready, Little said. □

*CHPPM-PAC plays a critical role in safeguarding the health of America's primary fighting forces in the Pacific Theater.*

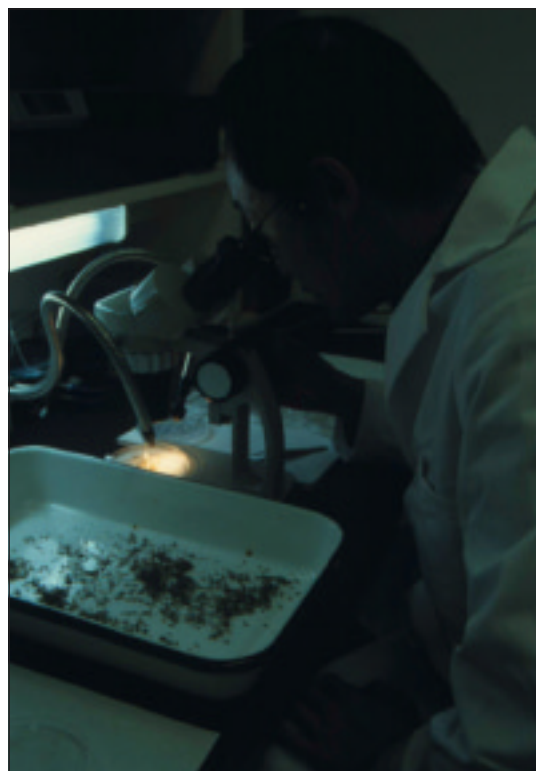
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Environmental health engineer CPT Christopher Johnson planned and coordinated medical-assistance missions in East Timor from July through October 2000, when United Nations peacekeepers were there helping to quell local violence.

"Eighty percent of my job was coordinating with East Timor citizens to determine what type of medical services they needed and then requesting those services from U.N. personnel," Johnson said.

Then he publicized when and where medical care would be provided so patients would arrive where help was being offered.

Among the services he arranged was a Navy "eye" team visit at which optometrists issued 2,500 pairs of



**Entomology technician Iwakami Masahiro studies a variety of mosquitoes to identify those that carry diseases.**



## ***Beauquesnes Advance***

*September 1918*



During fighting along the Somme, American infantrymen advance through barbed wire on a path made by an Army tank. The soldier at right has become entangled.





# Army Transforming America

## *The Remarkable Mosaic of Military Education*

**T**O a high-school graduate deciding whether to seek a college education or a military tour of duty, school or service seems to be an either/or choice. Yet, both currently and historically, the Army has helped soldiers pursue both options, often at the same time. In the summer of 2000, for instance, the Army established its University Access Online program to help soldiers earn college degrees or technical certifications through Internet-based courses. Soldiers may attend classes from anywhere in the world. America reaps direct benefits when these better-educated, technically proficient soldiers eventually return to their communities.

While this program is innovative, it is not altogether unique in the Army's history. Established in 1802, the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., produced the nation's school-qualified military engineers. When these soldiers were not involved in military missions, America employed their talents for building infrastructure and exploring the vast, uncharted continent.

During the Civil War the Army established educational programs for former slaves, to reduce illiteracy and teach vocational skills. Many of these efforts evolved into the historically black colleges and universities still active today. As America moved west and the Army established forts throughout the frontier, soldiers often doubled as schoolteachers, instructing both military dependents and civilians from outlying areas.

The school-and-service relationship continued in several ways from the late 1800s to the present. Land-grant colleges offered students some military education that ultimately evolved into today's ROTC programs. Meanwhile, the Army sent many of its officers to the universities for advanced technical study. This practice kept many student-depleted schools open during World War II. The hugely successful GI Bill might have offered an empty promise to returning veterans if these colleges and universities had not been sustained during the war through soldier enrollment.

Today, the Army's worldwide college extension system has made it possible for soldiers who have entered service with virtually no formal education to achieve all levels of academic success during their military careers. From West Point to cyberspace, the Army's many educational initiatives have truly advanced what one historian calls the "remarkable mosaic of military contribution to civilian education." — CPT Patrick Swan